

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

East Asia

16 Jun 87

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i

NORTHEAST ASIA

JAPAN

Nakasone Discusses Venice Summit With Cabinet	A 1
Summit 'Produced Good Results'	A 1
Nakasone Backs Pledges	A 1
Japan-U.S. SDI Talks End Without Agreement	A 2
Japan Apologizes to China for Official's Remarks	A 2
White Paper Examines International Trade	A 3
Business Survey Shows Recession Bottoming Out	A 5
Japan, PRC Oil Firms Discuss Cooperation	A 6

NORTH KOREA

U.S. State Department's Oakley's Remarks Denounced	C 1
NODONG SINMUN Commentary [14 Jun]	C 1
Former Ambassador Gleysteen's Remarks Criticized	C 3
Nonaligned Ministerial Conference Ends	C 3
USSR, SRV Leaders' Greetings	C 3
Declaration, Plan of Action	C 4
KCNA Reports Closing	C 7
NODONG SINMUN Commentary on No Tae-u Nomination	C 9
[13 Jun]	
Pyongyang Rally Held on Dictatorship Extension	C 11
Superconductive Material Produced by DPRK	C 12

SOUTH KOREA

Nationwide Rallies Continue From 10 Jun	D 1
KYODO 15 Jun Review	D 1
'Few Clashes' Reported	D 1
Police Detain 6,094 [THE KOREA HERALD 16 Jun]	D 2
20 NCDC Members To Be Summoned	D 3
[THE KOREA TIMES 16 Jun]	
Protestors' Release Requested	D 3
[THE KOREA TIMES 16 Jun]	
NCDC Says More Rallies 'As Soon as Possible'	D 3
[THE KOREA TIMES 16 Jun]	
Ruling, Opposition Parties Seeking Dialogue	D 4
[THE KOREA HERALD 16 Jun]	
RDP Sets Two Preconditions	D 5
RDP Urges Government To Reverse Decision	D 6
[THE KOREA TIMES 16 Jun]	
Editorial on No Tae-u's Press Conference	D 7
[CHOSON ILBO 13 Jun]	
Briefs: Air Force Chief Promoted	D 8

SOUTHEAST ASIA

BRUNEI, MALAYSIA & SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE

ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting Continues	H 1
Lee Kuan Yew Opens Meeting	H 1
Thai Minister's Opening Remarks [Bangkok]	H 2
Malaysian Minister Speaks [Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA 15 Jun]	H 6
First Day Summarized [AFP]	H 7
Gist of Joint Communique [KYODO]	H 9

CAMBODIA

Spokesman Supports Lao Communique on Thai Acts	I 1
Various Schools' Student Activities Reported	I 1
Chea Soth Attends KFTU Meeting on Family Economy	I 2
Bou Thang Visits Factory Workers in Phnom Penh	I 3
Son Sann To Seek USSR Help With 'Cambodia Problem' [AFP]	I 3
Sihanouk Comments on Cambodia's Possible Future [AFP]	I 4
Briefs: Health Cooperation With CSSR	I 4

LAOS

PASASON on U.S. View of Nuclear-Free Zone	K 1
'Press Release' on Party's Fourth Plenum	K 1
Briefs: Memorandum With Australia	K 4

PHILIPPINES

Bombs Explode in Manila Commercial District [AFP]	L 1
Further on Bombs	L 1
NPA Threatens Barangay Leaders in Metro Manila	L 1
Army Complains About Anti-Insurgency Limitations [MALAYA 12 Jun]	L 2
Government Approves Protocol II on Human Rights [THE PHILIPPINE STAR 12 Jun]	L 2
Central Luzon Regional Unified Commander Installed	L 3
Mindanao Christian Group Demands Independence [AFP]	L 4
Agrarian Reform Said Disrupting Credit Flow [MANILA BULLETIN 13 Jun]	L 4
Reaction to New Land Reform Program Noted	L 5
Survey Shows Favor [PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 12 Jun]	L 5
Negros Governor on Reform [MANILA BULLETIN 13 Jun]	L 7
Groups React [MALAYA 12 Jun]	L 8
Negros Landowners Oppose Reforms [PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 10 Jun]	L 10
Group Urges Reform [THE MANILA CHRONICLE 11 Jun]	L 11
Luzon Farmers Against Plan	L 12

THAILAND

U.S. To Be Assured on Hmong Refugee Status [THE NATION 16 Jun]	M 1
New Hmong Community Planned [THE NATION 14 Jun]	M 1
Army Official Talks on Cambodian Border Situation	M 2
Cooperation Planned With Malaysia To Stop Smuggling [THE NATION 12 Jun]	M 3
Soldiers To Suppress Plundering	M 4
Laos Fails To Respond to Border Market Offer [THE NATION 15 Jun]	M 5
Army To Introduce Volunteer Service Next Year [BANGKOK POST 14 Jun]	M 5
Democrat Leader Discusses Party, Coalition Problems [BANGKOK POST 15 Jun]	M 6
Vice Premier Comments on Ailing State Enterprises [BANGKOK POST 15 Jun]	M 8
Briefs: Canadian Ambassador Leaves; New Kuwaiti, Polish Ambassadors	M 8

VIETNAM

NHAN DAN Condemns China's 'Expansionist Policy'	N 1
National Assembly Deputies Hold Meetings	N 2
Hanoi Delegation Meets	N 2
Thai Binh Deputies Meet	N 3
Nguyen Van Linh Meeting	N 3
Meeting With Intellectuals	N 4
Pham Van Dong Addresses Hanoi Conference 12 June	N 4
NHAN DAN Editorial on Developing Local Industry	N 5
Hai Hung Orders Action Against District Cadres	N 7

AUSTRALASIA

AUSTRALIA

Hawke Speaks on Regional Issues, U.S. Relations	Q 1
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NAKASONE DISCUSSES VENICE SUMMIT WITH CABINET

Summit 'Produced Good Results'

OW160449 Tokyo KYODO in English 0436 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Tokyo, June 16 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone reported to his cabinet ministers Tuesday on the June 8-10 summit in Venice, saying the other summit nations warmly welcomed an emergency economic package announced by Japan May 29. He said there was no "Japan bashing" at the summit, in which Japan was joined by the United States, Britain, West Germany, France, Canada, Italy and representatives of the European Community.

The 6 trillion yen package is aimed at stimulating domestic demand in a bid to reduce Japan's trade surplus.

Nakasone said the summit produced good results, citing the Western allies' unity on peace and disarmament issues in discussions on East-West relations. He stressed there was also Western unity on stabilizing exchange rates, and this unity would become a cornerstone of the world economy.

What was important was how Japan would carry out its pledged policies, Nakasone told the cabinet, asking ministers to follow up with checks and reviews of related issues.

Nakasone Backs Pledges

OW151105 Tokyo KYODO in English 1057 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Monday he will do his best to implement the pledges he made at last week's summit of seven leading industrialized nations in Venice, Italy. Nakasone told a meeting of his government and party officials that a 6 trillion yen supplementary budget to boost domestic demand should be approved and tax reforms carried out at an early date. He said the summit was a success because his government had already decided on a 43 billion dollar economic package, a 20 billion dollar fund recycling program to help developing nations, and a 1 billion dollar government procurement plan.

The summit discussions mainly focused on intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF), Japan's trade deficit and U.S. fiscal deficit, he said.

Nakasone described the declaration on East-West relations as a kind of peace offensive and said it is a call on the Soviet Union to achieve arms reductions.

He said the pace of Japan's market liberalization is proceeding faster than European countries. "Instead of using the words 'market opening,' we should rather use such words as 'import expansion' or 'foreign participation in the Japanese market,'" Nakasone said.

Regarding his summit statement that he will abolish tax-free small savings, he said this should be dealt with in the process of reforming Japan's tax system.

"I merely stated my personal wishes," Nakasone added.

The Venice summit was held last Monday through Wednesday with the participation of the leaders from Japan, the United States, Canada, Britain, France, West Germany and Italy.

JAPAN-U.S. SDI TALKS END WITHOUT AGREEMENT

OW160511 Tokyo KYODO in English 0503 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Washington, June 15 KYODO -- A fourth round of working-level negotiations between Japan and the United States on Japan's participation in the research phase of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) ended Tuesday without an agreement.

"Though we have made progress in all aspects, details that we should discuss further in Tokyo remain," said Makoto Watanabe, councillor for the North American Affairs Bureau of the Foreign Ministry. Watanabe told reporters that European firms have contracts with the U.S. concerning the SDI research project, and Japan must conclude negotiations soon to enable Japanese private firms to also participate.

Sources said discussions in the two-week meeting covered problems concerning the ownership of patents developed from the joint research on the space-based missile defense project and the protection of secrecy involving the research results.

The countries have been discussing how Japan would join in the research phase of the SDI since the Japanese Government decided to participate in the venture last October.

JAPAN APOLOGIZES TO CHINA FOR OFFICIAL'S REMARKS

OW151405 Tokyo KYODO in English 1301 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO -- Japan expressed regret to China Monday over controversial remarks by a senior Foreign Ministry official over Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping.

"It is regrettable that the reported remarks attributed to a high-ranking Foreign Ministry official offended the Chinese side as they contained discourteous expressions in reference to Chairman Deng Xiaoping," said Kunihiro Makita, director of the Foreign Ministry's China and Mongolia Division.

He conveyed the Japanese regret to Lu Xi, counsellor at the Chinese Embassy in Tokyo, at his ministry Monday night.

The statement of regret was announced earlier in the day by Vice Foreign Minister Kensuke Yanagiya, who received an approval for the statement from Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone when he made a regular briefing on foreign affairs earlier in the day.

The unidentified high-ranking official had expressed doubt about whether Deng was in touch with the reality of Japan-China relations and said that the Chinese leader may be "living in the clouds."

According to Yanagiya, Nakasone instructed him to reaffirm to the Chinese ideas along with the regret that Japan recognizes the principles it confirmed with the Chinese Government in normalizing the bilateral relations "remain strictly unchanged" and Japan as a nation recognizes "one China" and not "two Chinas."

The unnamed official made the controversial remarks soon after Deng made critical statements to Junya Yano, chairman of Komeito, Japan's second biggest opposition party, in Beijing on June 4.

Deng's statements related to Japan's decision to abandon a ceiling on defense spending of 1 percent of its gross national product, a recent Osaka High Court ruling awarding the ownership to Taiwan of a student dormitory in Kyoto, and Japan's economic cooperation with China.

China has shown strong negative reaction to the Japanese official's critical remarks.

WHITE PAPER EXAMINES INTERNATIONAL TRADE

OW160253 Tokyo KYODO in English 0228 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Tokyo, June 16 KYODO -- The following are highlights of the White Paper on International Trade for Fiscal 1987 announced Tuesday:

Chapter 1: Recent Changes in the World Economy.

-- The world economy slowed down its growth rate to 2.9 percent in 1986 from 3.1 percent in the previous year.

-- Reflecting the slowdown in the world economy, the annual expansion pace of global trade was only 3.5 percent in quantity in 1986 compared with the previous year. But on a dollar-denominated basis, the value posted a 9.8 percent increase to the 2 trillion dollar level due chiefly to the weakness of the U.S. currency.

-- The U.S. dollar fell against the Japanese currency to around 140 yen from 200 yen in January 1986.

-- Despite adjustments in foreign exchange rates, the imbalance in trade among industrialized countries widened.

-- The United States had a trade deficit of 147.7 billion dollars in 1986, up from 124.4 billion dollars in the previous year, and Britain was 11.8 billion dollars in the red, up from 2.7 billion dollars. In contrast, Japan's trade surplus rose to 82.7 billion dollars in 1986 from 56 billion dollars the previous year and West Germany was 53.5 billion dollars in the black in 1986 up from 28.9 billion dollars.

-- Crude oil prices rebounded on spot markets to the present figure of around 17 dollars per barrel from 8 dollars per barrel in August 1986 as a result of agreements of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in August and October to fix the price at above 18 dollars per barrel.

-- Intensified protectionist pressure between the U.S. and the European Community (EC) in an agriculture trade dispute threatened to cause a collapse of free trade.

-- To fight these protectionist moves, trade ministers from countries throughout the world declared the opening of a new round of multilateral trade talks in Punta Del Este, Uruguay, in September 1986, aimed at establishing new rules in "new trade fields" like services and intellectual property rights.

Chapter 2: How Japanese Companies Are Coping With the Impact of the Strong Yen.

-- On a yen-denominated basis, Japan's exports declined to 35,289.7 billion yen, down 15.9 percent in 1986 from the previous year, and suffered a 1.3 percent decrease in volume terms. But on a dollar-denominated basis, the exports expanded 19.1 percent to 209.2 billion dollars because of the so-called J-curve effect, in which the strong yen automatically inflates the dollar value of yen-denominated exports.

-- The J-curve effect is responsible for an estimated 17.2 billion dollars of the increment in the value of the country's exports in 1986.

-- Japan's imports showed a 12.5 percent year-to-year rise in volume in 1986. But imports on a yen-denominated basis fell 30.7 percent in 1986 from the previous year to 21,550.7 billion yen, as a result of declining crude oil prices, which accounted for about 10 percent of the total imports. On a dollar-denominated basis, imports sagged 2.4 percent to 126.4 billion dollars.

-- Japan's real gross national product (GNP) grew at an annual rate of 2.5 percent in 1986, far below the 4.7 percent in the previous year. The unemployment rate also registered an all-time high of 2.8 percent.

-- Japan ran an all-time record high current account surplus of 85.8 billion dollars in 1986 and the trade surplus totaled a record high of 92.8 billion dollars.

-- Japanese major manufacturers registered a 9.1 percent decrease in sales and a 24.1 percent fall in after-tax profits because of the yen's dramatic advance against the dollar.

-- Consumer prices remained steady, rising slightly 1.1 percent in January 1987 from a year earlier, after a minus figure in October 1986, reflecting dropping wholesale prices.

-- Windfall profits from the strong yen and declining crude oil prices which were channeled back to consumers, totaled about 18 trillion yen in 1986.

Chapter 3: Expanding Trade Imbalance and Changes in Industrial and Trade Structures of Japan and the U.S.

-- Adjustments of foreign exchange rates began to have a "gradual but steady" effect on Japan's exports and imports and those of the U.S. But the effects were not strong enough to shrink trade imbalance on a dollar-denominated basis.

-- There are two factors apart from the exchange rate and adjustment in the expansion of the Japan-U.S. trade imbalance.

-- One of them is the gap in economic growth rates between each country and its trading partners and the other is the nature of the trade structures of the two countries.

-- One index of trade structure, the income elasticity of exports and imports, shows that the U.S. is more likely to experience increases in import, while Japan is structurally predisposed to growth in exports.

-- The U.S. trade balance, which remained in the black throughout the 1960s, went into the red in the 1970s, when the nation substantially increased its imports of raw materials and fuels. Since 1983, a sharp rise in industrial products imports has caused the deficit to swell enormously.

-- Among the structural factors of the U.S. trade deficit in the early 1980s are the following: the decline in American industrial competitiveness, insufficient productive capacity, an increase in foreign procurement and U.S. management attitudes.

-- Despite the "Plaza Accord" in September 1985, the ratio of Japan's trade surplus to the GNP showed a wide expansion in 1986.

-- One reason for this is that Japanese export products have remained extremely competitive in world markets.

-- The strong yen is forcing Japanese export-oriented manufacturers to upgrade their overseas production. Japan's direct investment overseas posted an 86.4 percent year-on-year increase between April 1986, and February 1987, after direct investment rose 20.3 percent in fiscal 1985 from the previous year to 12,217 million dollars.

Conclusion.

-- Japan, which depends heavily on the free trade system, should take the initiative in coordinating macroeconomic policies with other Western industrialized nations for sustained growth of the world economy.

-- Under the new environment created by the strong yen, Japanese firms are notably increasing their overseas production and their purchases of foreign products, particularly machine parts, including those for cars and electrical appliances, from Asian newly industrializing countries (NICs) and developing nations.

-- The increase in procurement and production abroad will help bring about a much-needed reduction of Japan's massive trade surplus.

BUSINESS SURVEY SHOWS RECESSION BOTTOMING OUT

OW151059 Tokyo KYODO in English 1030 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Tokyo, June 15 KYODO -- The Japanese Finance Ministry said in a report Monday there are signs of the recession in the Japanese economy bottoming out as business prospects of firms surveyed will clearly improve toward the end of this year. The business forecast survey, conducted in May, said the Business Survey Index (BSI) of some 300,000 manufacturing and nonmanufacturing firms questioned across the nation will all improve toward the October-December period in all categories.

Finance Ministry officials said there were no signs of the economy worsening regarding the recovery in profits and sales backed by stable foreign exchange rates, low commodity prices and low interest rates. The official said business executives surveyed expressed hopes that a pump-priming package totalling 6 trillion yen announced May 29 will stimulate business activities.

The survey said the index of big manufacturing and nonmanufacturing firms with capital of over 1 billion yen leveled off in the April-June period, compared with minus 14.6 percentage points for the January-March period.

The index for the July-September period stood at 6.7 percentage points and that for the October-December period was 10.2 percentage points, showing more corporate executives expect their businesses to pick up toward the year-end.

The small and medium-sized firms surveyed showed similar expectations, expressing a less optimistic view expressed than larger firms, the survey said.

Corporate profits of all industries surveyed are expected to rise an average 10.6 percent in the first half of the current fiscal year, which started April 1, compared with the same period last year, with a sharp recovery in profits of manufacturing industries and continuing favorable prospects of nonmanufacturers. Sales of all industries are expected to rise 1.1 percent in the same period from a year before, and to advance 3.1 percent in the latter half, the survey said.

JAPAN, PRC OIL FIRMS DISCUSS COOPERATION

OW060501 Tokyo KYODO in English 0405 GMT 6 Jun 87

[Text] Tokyo, June 6 KYODO -- A semiofficial Japanese oil development firm drilling for crude oil in China's Bohai Bay said Saturday it expects to reach a basic agreement with its Chinese counterpart on development of two structures at their top-level talks due in late July. The Japan-China Oil Development Corp. (JCODC), a Tokyo-based firm working with China's Bohai, said an exploratory meeting will be held late this month with China Offshore Oil Corp. to decide details on development and funding for the two structures -- BZ 34-2 and BZ 34-4.

JCODC will try to obtain financing for the 200 million dollar development project from the governmental Export-Import Bank of Japan (Eximbank) by late October before holding an international bidding on the project in early November, a company spokesman said.

The spokesman also predicted oil production would begin by autumn 1989 at the two structures, with combined recoverable reserve estimated at 40 million barrels a day -- 30 million barrels a day in the eastern part of BZ 34-2 and BZ 34-4, and 10 million barrels a day in the western part of BZ 34-4. Similar to Bohai Bay Oil Corp.'s BZ 28-1 structure, the single point mooring system using a tanker will be adopted, with the only difference being the installation of water injection equipment and a gas lift on a 150,000-ton class tanker, due to lower reservoir pressure, he said.

The spokesman said this system will be initiated on the basis of a concept and feasibility study made on behalf of the Japanese and Chinese firms by Global Engineering Corp., a major British engineering firm based in London. JCODC has been conducting geological and oil stratum appraisal operations in the two structures following similar evaluation of the BZ 28-1 structure.

Conversely, he said Chengbei Oil Development Corp., a Tokyo-based subsidiary of JCODC, has been suffering losses in their commercial production of crude oil from the smaller Chengbei wells off the port of Tianjian, which started operation in 1985.

He expressed hope that the Chinese side will drastically ease terms of the joint development amid a series of forfeitures by stockholders following a bleak economic outlook in the commercial viability of the BZ 28-1 structure.

U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT'S OAKLEY'S REMARKS DENOUNCED

SK120510 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0504 GMT 12 Jun 87

[Text] Pyongyang June 12 (KCNA) -- U.S. State Department Spokeswoman Oakley Wednesday, referring to the demonstrations of people of broad strata that swept through South Korea against the long-term office scheme of the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group, said she "abhors such acts," according to a report.

She was brazen enough to cry that "political progress" in South Koea "would be furthered by greater willingness to engage in dialogue rather than coercion."

This was an insult to the South Korean people and an open patronage to the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group which is dead set on gratifying its desire for long-term office by fascist repression.

Turning a blind eye to the brutal repression by the puppet clique, Oakley complained of the action of the people for a constitutional revision allowing direct "presidential" election and democratisation of society, branding it as "violence" and "coercion."

She openly indicated that the U.S. imperialists were shoring up the traitor Chon Tu-hwan and giving a boost to the traitor No Tae-u in an effort to maintain the present fascist system at any cost.

NODONG SINMUN Commentary

SK160034 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2152 GMT Jun 87

[NODONG SINMUN 14 June commentary: "True Nature of the Colonial Rulers"]

[Text] Today, mass struggles are being fiercely waged by youths, students, and the people throughout South Korea to oppose the Chon Tu-hwan, No Tae-u ring's maneuvers for long-term power and to achieve democracy.

Loudly shouting: Overthrow the Military Dictatorship, Expel the U.S. Imperialists Who Are Supporting the Dictatorship, and Yankee, Go Home, the masses who have taken to streets are struggling courageously in defiance of brutal suppression by the police.

Foreign news media have reported that this furious confrontation between the dictatorial forces and the democratic ones is the worst in the past several years.

The U.S. ruling bunch, more than anyone else, are embarrassed and frightened at this type of development in the situation.

This is confirmed by the fact that when the South Korean people's anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle for democracy and national salvation swept over all of South Korea, in the end, Oakley, spokesperson for the U.S. Department of State, raved that she had an aversion to this struggle.

Until recently, the U.S. ruling bunch babbled as if they had deplored traitor Chon Tu-hwan's so-called grave decision and supported democratic development in South Korea. What does it mean for such fellows to discuss the rights or wrongs while babbling about their feeling of aversion and the like when the people, youths, and students in South Korea are up to oppose the Chon Tu-hwan, No Tae-u ring's maneuvers for long-term power and the prolonging of its military fascist, and dictatorial ruling system? Also, what does it mean for those who, even while claiming that they advocate human rights and liberal democracy day and night, have shut their mouths about the Chon Tu-hwan clique's brutal suppression of the people and about the torture-murder of student Pak Chong-chol to babble about their aversion to the South Korean people's righteous struggle designed to end these types of criminal acts?

What the U.S. imperialists fear most is that the surge of the South Korean people's struggle could rock the puppets' fascist military dictatorial system to its foundation and push the U.S. colonial rule over the brink of collapse.

Oakley's absurd remarks are an intolerable insult and a vicious challenge to, an implicit suppression of, and a threat to the South Korean youths, students, and people who are fighting to oppose the fascism and the dictatorship and to reject the U.S. imperialists. At the same time, the remarks are undisguised support for, and protection of, traitor Chon Tu-hwan who is running amok in fascist suppression against the people.

It is not democratic development that the U.S. imperialists want in South Korea. What they want is only to prolong the military, fascist, and dictatorial ruling system and to continuously maintain their colonial rule based on this system.

Related to this are the U.S. imperialists' attempt to block the people's struggle for constitutional revision providing for a direct presidential election system after having traitor Chon Tu-hwan make the so-called grave decision, and their nomination No Tae-u another faithful pawn of theirs, as a presidential candidate. Who else but these fellows maliciously can insult the South Korean people's just struggle for national salvation?

The U.S. ruling bunch's clamoring that they deplored traitor Chon Tu-hwan's grave decision and supported democratic development in South Korea was a whopping lie which has been blatantly laid bare once again by Oakley's absurd remarks. The U.S. imperialists have exposed their true nature as an occupier and a colonial ruler after throwing off their mask of democracy.

Oakley's ravings that she felt an aversion to the South Korean people's struggle is not a thing especially unusual or surprising. The U.S. imperialists, who have enforced colonial rule in South Korea since occupying it, do not hope for democratic development in South Korea, nor can they hope for it, because of their strategy toward Asia and policy of aggression against Korea.

The U.S. imperialists have assisted in the formation of the Chon-Tu-hwan military fascist dictatorship, have defended and protected it, and have employed every type of wicked maneuver to prolong it. The U.S. imperialists are not a friend of, nor an aid-provider to, the South Korean people. The South Korean people, without a bit of fantasy about the U.S. imperialists, will continue to fight vigorously by further raising the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial banner for democratization which they have already raised high.

FORMER AMBASSADOR GLEYSTEN'S REMARKS CRITICIZED

SK141202 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1155 GMT 14 Jun 87

[Text] Pyongyang June 14 (KCNA) -- Former U.S. Ambassador in Seoul Gleysteen in his article to a U.S. magazine said peaceful change of power, establishment of an orthodox government through a fair election and civilianisation of politics are the three goals sought by the United States in South Korea, according to a report of the South Korean "YONHAP TONGSIN" from Los Angeles.

The South Korean people are angered at his vicious preach painting the change of the Chon Tu-hwan "regime" into the No Tae-u "regime" according to the present fascist constitution as a peaceful change of power and the long-term office of military gangsters minus their blood-stained military uniforms as a civilianisation of politics.

This preach of the former colonial "governor general" was a gibberish patronizing the long-term office scheme of the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique and beautifying the murderous fascist "regime."

Still more intolerable is his hidden threat to the South Korean people fighting against this scheme of the fascist maniacs. He hinted this when he declared that the U.S. interests in South Korea were very important and increasing gradually. He meant that the United States would not leave the fascist "regime" to be toppled by the struggle of the people.

Gleysteen is one of the imperialist servants who directly inspired the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group in the Kwangju bloodbath on the spot while serving as the U.S. ambassador in Seoul in the bloody days in May 1980.

NONALIGNED MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ENDS

USSR, SRV Leaders' Greetings

SK141205 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1200 GMT 14 Jun 87

[Text] Pyongyang June 14 (KCNA) -- Messages of greetings came to the Extraordinary Ministerial Conference of Non-Aligned Countries on South-South Cooperation from Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Pham Van Dong, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The Soviet premier in his message said that the Soviet Union supported with understanding that the developing countries were discussing the questions of having multi-faceted cooperation through the mobilisation of home potentials to accelerate economic development and increase independence.

The Vietnamese premier in his message stated that the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam believed the conference would actively contribute to the struggle of the developing countries and Non-Aligned Movement for further strengthening solidarity and South-South cooperation on the principles of equality and mutual benefit and establishing a new economic order.

Declaration, Plan of Action

SK131640 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1543 GMT 13 Jun 87

[Text] Pyongyang June 13 (KCNA) -- Pyongyang Declaration and Plan of Action on South-South Cooperation has been adopted at the extraordinary ministerial conference of non-aligned countries on South-South cooperation that closed here today.

The Pyongyang Declaration consists of 38 articles and the plan of action has two parts and the last part has 28 articles.

The Pyongyang Declaration makes an overall analysis and assessment of the South-South cooperation and the present international economic situation and lays down future approaches and policies for South-South cooperation. The declaration says in part:

The ministers reaffirmed their full and unwavering commitment to economic co-operation among developing countries and the principle of collective self-reliance.

The ministers stressed that the present world economic crisis hampers the development process of the developing countries, thus affecting their possibilities for effectively strengthening South-South co-operation.

They expressed the view that South-South co-operation has attained a marked importance for the non-aligned and other developing countries insofar as it constitutes an endeavour for the achievement of collective self-reliance.

They underlined the need for the restructuring of present international monetary and financial system and for the early establishment of a system fully responsive to the diverse and constantly changing requirements of the world economy, especially to the needs of the developing countries.

The ministers regarded the efforts of the non-aligned and other developing countries to establish the new international economic order and strengthen South-South co-operation as an integral part of their peoples' struggles for economic, cultural and social emancipation and as one of the essential objectives of the movement. In this context, they stressed again that imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, apartheid, Zionism, foreign aggression, occupation, domination, economic blockade, coercive measures, hegemony, expansionism, exploitation and any forms of destabilization constitute fundamental obstacles to the complete economic emancipation and socio-economic progress of the non-aligned and other developing countries and reaffirmed their commitment to individually and collectively adopt effective measures to put an end to these practices.

The ministers reiterated the inalienable right of every state to attain social and economic development, to freely choose its own socio-economic system and to promote the well-being of its people in accordance with its national plans and policies.

The ministers expressed their high appreciation for the efforts made by the Group of 77 to strengthen and promote economic co-operation under the Caracas programme of action.

The ministers emphasized the direct relationship between peace, disarmament and development. They stressed that orderly development could only be realized in an atmosphere of peace and co-operation and in this context reiterated their call for the immediate halting of the arms race, followed by urgent disarmament measures that would release the human, financial, material and technological resources sorely needed for development.

Having made a critical examination and evaluation of South-South co-operation, the ministers recognized the need to give new impetus to co-operation among non-aligned and other developing countries and to adopt a new approach, in order to make this cooperation more dynamic.

The ministers stressed that South-South co-operation should become an integral part of the national development plans and programmes of all non-aligned and other developing countries. Strategies for South-South co-operation and national development strategies should be complementary, so that SSC projects and programmes may be the outcome of an assessment of national needs and priorities.

The ministers stressed that priorities should be established in the different spheres of co-operation. They asserted that co-operation should be action-oriented and project-wise. In this connection, it is essential to identify and accurately assess co-operation needs and capabilities.

The ministers stated that the non-aligned and other developing countries should devote more attention to project and programme implementation mechanisms.

The ministers recognized the imperative need for the developing countries to harmonize their positions and achieve unity of action on all matters of common interest.

On measures at the national level the plan of action says:

The integration of the objectives and priorities of South-South co-operation in the national development plans and policies of the non-aligned and other developing countries constitutes an essential element in promoting and enhancing this co-operation.

Then the plan has measures at the bilateral level and measures at the subregional, regional and inter-regional levels.

Pointing to measures at the global level, the plan of action says:

UNDP [United Nations Development Program] should increase its founding of sub-regional, regional and interregional projects.

All specialized agencies should allocate sufficient resources in their programme budgets for South-South co-operation;

All organizations and agencies of the United Nations system should substantially increase the number of consultants hired and the amount of equipment procured in developing countries.

All members of UNIDO [United Nations Industrial Development Organization] should pay their assessed contributions to UNIDO to help it continue with its efforts in industrialization and South-South co-operation.

The ministers welcomed the holding of the first meeting of the Standing Ministerial Committee for Economic Co-operation in Pyongyang and expressed the hope that the committee will now address the issues for which it was established. The ministers also expressed the hope that the composition of the committee will be completed at the earliest possible time.

The ministers stressed the need to encourage joint ventures in farming and fishing as major ways and means of increasing food production towards the achievement of collective food self-sufficiency.

On immediate actions within the framework of the co-operation programmes of the developing countries, the plan of action points out:

The ministers urged governments to give the GSTP [Global System of Trade Preferences] increased political support.

The ministers invited those state trading organizations of non-aligned and other developing countries which have not done so to join ASTRO [International Association State Trading Organizations of Developing Countries] and take active participation in the association's activities.

Regarding establishment of currency and clearing-house arrangements the ministers affirmed the importance of establishing payments and clearing-house arrangements among interested non-aligned and other developing countries to complement and support preferential trading arrangements these countries are setting up among themselves and to settle outstanding balances in counter trade arrangements.

On joint ventures in farming, the plan of action says:

The ministers recommended that the co-ordinating countries in the field of food and agriculture hold a meeting of experts on joint ventures in farming as soon as possible to consider the feasibility of establishing and managing joint venture farms.

The ministers welcomed the offer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to host this meeting of experts in 1988.

The ministers welcomed the offer of India to host the meeting of the co-ordinating countries in the sphere of science and technology in 1988 to define the work programme of the centre.

Pointing to development and exchange of new and high technologies, the plan notes that [the ministers] welcomed the proposal of the Government of India to host an inter-governmental consultative conference of experts on new and high technologies during 1988.

The plan also refers to project development mechanism for techno-economic co-operation, and framework of action for the transfer of technology among developing countries, research and information system (RIS), multisectorial information network (MSIN), exchange of information among non-aligned countries.

In the part dealing with actions in the field of consultancy, construction and engineering the plan notes that the ministers requested the Group of 77 at the 6th meeting of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Coordination Committee (IFCC), to be held in Havana from 7 to 12 September 1987, to include in the sectorial review to be undertaken during this meeting a follow-up of the outcome of the meeting of experts on consultancy, construction and engineering.

Regarding network for examination of measuring instruments using national primary standards and quality certification, the plan says that the ministers recommended that the coordinating countries consider the feasibility of setting up the network for the examination of measuring instruments using national primary standards and quality certification in the non-aligned and other developing countries at the meeting of experts to be held in Belgrade September 7-14, 1987, and called on all the members to participate actively.

On inventory of South-South cooperation capabilities in the sphere of health, the plan says the ministers recommended that a meeting of experts in the sphere of health devoted exclusively to this project be held and welcomed the offer of Cuba to host this meeting in 1988.

Regarding centre for the exchange of information and technology on traditional medicine, the plan notes:

The ministers recommended that the coordinating countries in the health sphere hold a meeting at the level of experts to study the feasibility of setting up centres for the exchange of information and technology on traditional medicine and welcomed the offer of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to host the meeting of experts in 1988.

The plan points to cooperation for production of capital equipment for the energy industry, training of technical personnel in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy and new and renewable sources of energy, exchanges of expertise and the training of personnel in the field of education and culture, exchange of information and expertise in the field of rural development and women's role in development.

KCNA Reports Closing

SK141156 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1136 GMT 14 Jun 87

[Text] Pyongyang, June 14 (KCNA) -- The extraordinary ministerial conference of non-aligned countries on South-South cooperation which opened here on June 9 with a large attendance in the presence of the great leader President Kim Il-song, closed on June 13 after successfully concluding its work.

The conference attended by 105 delegations and delegates from the member nations of the Non-Aligned Movement and other countries in the world, liberation movement organizations and international organizations, widely swapped the successes and experiences of non-aligned and other developing countries in South-South cooperation and sincerely discussed practical questions arising in expanding and developing it.

The closing session was preceded by the plenary meeting at the People's Palace of Culture that day.

Messages of greetings to President Kim Il-song from heads of state of many countries on the occasion of the conference were introduced to the attendants of the meeting.

Then a debate on the agenda items continued at the meeting.

The chairman of the committee made a report on the work of the committee and on the matters agreed thereupon.

Then a Pyongyang Declaration and Plan of Action on South-South Cooperation was adopted with unanimous approval at the plenary meeting.

A resolution expressing thanks to the government and people of the DPRK, the host of the conference, was also adopted amid warm applause at the meeting in the name of the attendants of the extraordinary ministerial conference of non-aligned countries on South-South cooperation.

The rapporteur general of the conference delivered a report on his work at the plenary meeting.

The closing session followed.

Speeches were made there by representatives of regions and liberation movement organizations in congratulation of the successful Pyongyang extraordinary ministerial conference.

Ethiopian Foreign Minister Berhanu Bayeh, who spoke on behalf of the African region, said:

The opening and inspiring address delivered by Comrade President Kim Il-song, the illustrious leader of the Korean people, we are convinced, has served as a solid and constructive basis for our deliberations, thereby making positive contributions to the success of this conference.

Peruvian Foreign Minister Alan Wagner Tizon, who spoke on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean region, said the measures included in it constitute a correct milestone that enable us to undertake the work for collective self-reliance and economical stability in the areas provided in the economic cooperation programme of the non-aligned countries and the Group of 77, that is, in trade, fund, finance, technology, agriculture, fisheries, food, health and other areas.

Indian Foreign Minister Narain Dutt Tiwari, who spoke on behalf of the Asian region, noted that important decisions have been taken in the fields of food and agriculture, health, science and technology, trade and monetary cooperation, and information exchanges as a result of the conference.

It is a matter of satisfaction for the entire movement that this important initiative for which we have worked for so long has become a reality in Pyongyang, he said.

Miodrag Trajkovic, [name as received] deputy federal secretary for foreign affairs of Yugoslavia, who spoke on behalf of the European region, said:

We believe that the adopted document with its concrete programme and projects will lead to the enrichment of South-South cooperation.

Muhammad Milhim, director in charge of the affairs of the occupied area of the Palestine Liberation Organization, who spoke on behalf of the liberation movement organizations, said the Pyongyang Declaration and Plan of Action contained clear and concrete recommendations on the orientation of our work for the future.

The closing address was delivered at the closing session by Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, the chairman of the conference.

The Pyongyang extraordinary ministerial conference, the first international meeting of its kind in the history of the Non-Aligned Movement dealing exclusively with the issue of South-South cooperation, clearly brought out the non-aligned countries' firm determination to expand this cooperation comprehensively, he said, and went on:

The Pyongyang Declaration, which was adopted at the conference, will give fresh impetus to the peoples of the non-aligned and other developing countries in their struggle to build a new society and encourage us in our efforts to expand South-South cooperation, because it has advanced and enriched our movement's strategies and policy guidelines on economic cooperation based on the principles of individual and collective self-reliance and reciprocity, reflecting the aspirations of the member states of the movement.

We should give full play to the spirit of unity and cooperation on the basis of the common idea of building independent national economies and achieving economic liberation and thereby expand and develop South-South cooperation on a larger scale, as we have pledged to do, and establish a new fair international economic order that defends the interests of the peoples of the non-aligned countries, he stressed.

NODON SINMUN COMMENTARY ON NO TAE-U NOMINATION

SK150037 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2150 GMT 12 Jun 87

[NODONG SINMUN 13 June commentary: "A Usurper's Sword Wielding"]

[Text] On 10 June, the South Korean military fascist clique issued a Class A emergency alert, and in a terror-ridden atmosphere, held a DJP congress and staged the farce of selecting its presidential candidate for the next term. The same day, the fascist clique, in an attempt to prevent the pan-national meetings scheduled to be held in 22 cities throughout South Korea -- including Seoul, Pusan, Taegu, Kwangju, and Masan -- denouncing maneuvers to prolong the military dictatorial system and the barbarous and murderous act of torture, placed off-stage figures under house arrest by force by mobilizing more than 120,00 police, blocked the campuses, and waged a bloody street battle against the peacefully demonstrating crowd. While running amok to suppress the demonstrators, the fascist police forces on the day committed the outrageous act of arresting by force thousands of students and people from all walks of life, who rose in the demonstration struggle.

The 10 June incidents showed that the Chon Tu-hwan-no Tae-u ring's bayonet rule sustained through violence, has reached its limit and that South Korea is a latter 20th century miserable living hell which has been plagued by the most barbarous fascist dictatorial system among U.S. colonies.

Despite the fact that while unanimously and strongly demanding constitutional revision in favor of the direct presidential election system and democratic politics, South Koreans from all walks of life oppose and reject the farce of transferring power under the present fascist Constitution, the military fascist elements have staged the farce of nominating their presidential candidate for the next term by binding the hands and feet of the people and off-stage figures by issuing tyrannical orders. This is an unpardonable act of usurping power and a political coup designed to perpetuate the military dictatorial system. This act should naturally be nullified.

The South Korean people have suffered the U.S. imperialists' fascist colonial rule over a long period of more than 40 years. They demand a democratic constitution and democratic politics to win back their lost political freedom and democratic rights. They also demand that they directly elect their ruler. This is their dignified act of claiming their rights that should not be violated by anyone. Nevertheless, the fascist clique is trying to violate with bayonets these sovereign rights which cannot be conceded, and to maintain and prolong the military and fascist dictatorial system merely by changing the name of the dictator. This is a completely illegal act and the act of those who have been defeated -- the act of usurping power which no one will recognize.

The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique said that its maneuvers to prolong its term of office are according to the people's desire. If its stand is righteous and if it is not afraid of the people, why does it obstinately oppose constitutional revision in favor of a direct presidential election, which the people demand? Why does it run amok to suppress the people by completely mobilizing tyrannical networks.

The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u ring has clung to politics of state power with bayonets because it cannot fulfill its filthy political greed through a legal and open and aboveboard method. The Chon Tu-hwan ring's vicious plot to prolong the DJP's dictatorial system by trampling underfoot the people's will and desire with bayonets and by using such a military hooligan as No Tae-u, is a treacherous attempt to make the hearts of the fellow countrymen seethe with the blook of resentment. No Tae-u is a military hooligan, who has laid the foundation of the present military dictatorial system by staging a military coup in December 1979 with traitor Chon Tu-hwan. He is a fascist and murderous devil, who has been implicated in the great murderous operations in Kwangju.

With the transfer of the relay baton to the No Tae-u regime from the Chon Tu-hwan regime, nothing will be changed in South Korea. It is crystal clear that the military and fascist rule will rather become much more ferocious and that the South Korean society will be turned into a much more suffocating land of darkness.

Because of the U.S. imperialists, the road to democratic development has again been blocked, and the prolongation of the military and fascist rule is about to be repeated there. Because of the requirement of the Korean and Asian strategy, the United States has not permitted any democratic development in South Korea, and is trying to continuously hold on to South Korea as a colonial military base by resorting to a military dictatorial system.

The U.S. imperialists judge that by using such a military hooligan as No Tae-u, whom they have long trained to be their faithful dog, they can remedy the situation by maintaining their rule with bayonets and continuously hold on to such a lump of meat as South Korea. However, the frantic fascist farce staged by the U.S. imperialists and their stooges will only expedite their downfall.

Wielding bayonets is not the act of a strong man but the last-stage sign of those faced with the fate of a downfall. Originally, those who challenge history will make a desperate attempt, facing the last moment in their life. However, this desperate attempt will only expedite their downfall.

The strength that works toward realizing the development of history is in the hands of the people. The South Korean people and the broad strata of off-stage democratic forces have already declared that the farce staged by the rabble of the DJP to nominate their presidential candidate is invalid. They have warned that a dictatorial regime that blocks the road to democratic development will be overthrown by the people.

The South Korean people from all walks of life will surely fulfill their desire to establish a true democratic regime through constitutional revision in favor of a direct presidential election system by resolutely waging the struggle to smash the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u clique's vicious plot to prolong its term of office without even a step of concession and compromise at this grave moment that determines the prolongation of the dictatorial system or the attainment of democracy.

PYONGYANG RALLY HELD ON DICTATORSHIP EXTENSION

SK141222 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1207 GMT 14 Jun 87

[Text] Pyongyang June 14 (KCNA) -- Pyongyang working people held a mass rally Saturday and denounced the criminal scheme of the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan puppet clique to extend the colonial military fascist dictatorship in South Korea.

Kim Pong-chu, chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, who is a Presidium member of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland was the first to address the rally.

The Chon Tu-hwan group, he said, on June 10 held a "convention of the Democratic Justice Party" and staged there the political burlesque of confirming No Tae-u, a military hooligan, as its "presidential candidate" with the general mobilisation of police force 120,000 strong under the "A-class emergency alert order." Furthermore, it went on the fascist rampage, bloodily suppressing everywhere South Korean students and people of all strata who opposed the "DJP convention" and "protection of the present Constitution" and demanded democratic politics.

The speaker, in the name of the entire Korean people, sternly denounced its fascist barbarities.

He continued:

With the present military fascist dictatorial system left intact in South Korea, there can be no change but the change of the name of the dictator from Chon Tu-hwan to No Tae-u and, worse still, the military fascist dictatorship will become more blatant and the people will be thrown into a more miserable lot.

Pointing out that it is none other than the U.S. imperialists who are masterminding the hideous plot to put No Tae-u in the "presidential" chair in South Korea, he stripped bare their crafty method of colonial rule.

The U.S. imperialists, he said, should no more encourage the long-term office scheme of the military fascist clique forsaken by the people in South Korea, but should get out there at once, taking along their forces and nuclear weapons, and the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group should not run riot in fascist repression, seeking a long-term office, but should immediately release the illegally arrested students and people of all strata and step down from power without delay as demanded by the people.

He was followed on the rostrum by representatives of different strata.

An appeal to the South Korean political parties, groupings and people of all strata was adopted at the rally.

The appeal says it is time they fought with courage and decision while the United States shoring up the fascist dictators finds itself in a dilemma and the dictators themselves are seized with uneasiness, with the presentiment of the last moments of their doom, it continues:

The South Korean political parties, groupings and people of all strata, with firm confidence, should fight more courageously to terminate the military dictatorship of the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group and greet the birth of a democratic regime which they have pictured in their dreams for over four decades.

The U.S. imperialists are the very back-stage manipulators who are backing the extension of the military fascist dictatorship in South Korea.

The deceptive "change of power" by the fascist dictators under your very nose is an offspring of the U.S. aggressive policy towards South Korea for keeping it as their colony and military base indefinitely.

The South Korean people of all segments must never be duped by the crafty ruse of the U.S. imperialists who are acting [as] a midwife for the military dictatorship behind the scene while talking volubly about "democratic development" in public, but [must] fight undauntedly against their interference in the internal affairs and colonial domination and for the withdrawal of the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons.

We entire people in the northern half of the republic, as your fellow countrymen of the same ancestry, will always extend positive support and encouragement to your patriotic struggle.

SUPERCONDUCTIVE MATERIAL PRODUCED BY DPRK

SK151525 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Pyongyang June 15 (KCNA) -- A research collective of Kim Il-song University on June 4 succeeded in obtaining high-temperature superconductive material which focuses the attention of the world scientific circles.

According to an announcement of the collective, it is special ceramic material obtained through the sintering of a well-mixed oxides of yttrium, barium and copper in high temperature.

The superconductive material begins sharply declining in electric resistance from the absolute temperature of 93 degrees (180 degrees below zero centigrade) till it drops to zero at the absolute temperature of 80 degrees (193 degrees below zero centigrade).

The brilliant success in the research into high-temperature superconductive material has opened a definite prospect for bringing new changes in many fields of the national economy including power and electronic industries.

The successful solution of the problem of high-temperature superconductive material, a subject into which the world scientific circles are making intensive researches with deep concern, clearly proves that Korea has reached the world's advanced level in this field, too.

The research collective of the university is now directing great energy into deepening the researches while consolidating and developing the success already achieved.

NATIONWIDE RALLIES CONTINUE FROM 10 JUN

KYODO 15 Jun Review

OW160323 Tokyo KYODO in English 0306 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Seoul, June 16 KYODO -- More than 100,000 people took part in antigovernment rallies and demonstrations throughout South Korea Monday, the largest antigovernment demonstrations since President Chon Tu-hwan took office in 1980. Police said 916 of the demonstrators were arrested. The demonstrations had spread from Seoul, where some 27,000 students from 21 universities took part in street protests Monday.

In Pusan, where some 4,000 students from seven universities took part in demonstrations, police fired tear gas bombs. About 500 students of Kyongbuk National University in Taegu clashed with police in the center of the city for three hours. A similar number of students chanted antigovernment slogans at demonstrations of Masan. In Taechon, Chungnam National University students and citizens staged demonstrations and some 10,000 people gathered in front of Taechon station. About 3,000 students took to the streets in Chinchu and some of them threw stones at an office of the ruling Democratic Justice Party.

More than 10,000 people took part in a mass at Myongdong Roman Catholic Cathedral in downtown Seoul Monday night calling for more democracy. A group of priests released "an appeal for more democracy" during the Mass. They said in the appeal that the government's decision to shelve talks on constitutional reform was aimed at extending the "military dictatorship." A DJP convention to select its presidential candidate to succeed Chon was against the current of history, it said. The priests' statement said they will encourage disobedience movement among citizens in responding to the people's ardent desire for more democracy.

People unable to get into the crowded cathedral participated in the Mass outside in the rain. Some chanted, "Down With the Government" and displayed banners denouncing Chon.

Riot police surrounded the cathedral, but most of the participants dispersed peacefully after the end of the two-hour Mass. Some 1,500 students and youths remained around the cathedral to stage a further protest, but they had left for home by Tuesday morning.

'Few Clashes' Reported

SK160058 Seoul YONHAP in English 0043 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Seoul, June 16 (YONHAP) -- Thousands of students and citizens staged an anti-government demonstration Monday night near the Myongdong Cathedral complex in the heart of Seoul. The protesters began to assemble in front of Korea's Roman Catholic center an hour after some 2000 student activists, lifting their five-day-long sit-in at the cathedral, returned to their respective campuses on Monday afternoon. The number of protesters surged to about 10,000 around 8 p.m. (1000 GMT) when a Mass was scheduled by priests from churches across the country.

Braving a 30-minute downpour, they continued the protest, singing and chanting anti-government slogans and songs, including calling for the removal of the government decision to suspend constitutional debate until after next's year's Seoul Olympics.

About 1,000 riot police took up positions on nearby streets to prevent the demonstrators from pouring out of the cathedral complex. There were few clashes between the police and the protestors.

When Catholics, ending their prayer service, marched down the cathedral hill with lighted candles in their hands, they were applauded by the protestors and answered by flashing the V sign with their fingers. Most of the participants in the Mass returned home but about 200 students and Catholics carried out an overnight sit-in on the hill in front of the cathedral. They had agreed with cathedral authorities earlier not to enter the church compound.

A rash of campus demonstrations also erupted across the nation Monday with tens of thousands of college students participating. Police boxes were attacked by student activists with Molotov cocktails and rocks, and a district chapter office of the ruling Democratic Justice Party was firebombed.

About 11,000 students from seven colleges in Pusan also conducted street demonstrations in that port city, boycotting the final examinations for the spring semester. They chanted such slogans as "Let's Smash the Scheme To Preserve the Current Constitution," and "The Government Should Release Those Arrested During Wednesday's Opposition Rally."

An estimated 90,200 students from 59 colleges and universities nationwide mounted street and on-campus demonstrations, denouncing the postponement of the Constitution's amendment, the National Police Headquarters said. Those who were picked up by the police numbered 916, most of them in Seoul, according to police tabulation.

Police Detain 6,094

SK152353 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 Jun 87 p 3

[Text] Police detained 6,094 people during five days of antigovernment demonstrations in Seoul and elsewhere across the country since last Wednesday, the National Police Headquarters (NPH) announced yesterday.

Of the total, 220 were formally arrested and 33 others were booked without physical detention, according to the announcement.

It said 393 people were sent to summary courts and 5,028 others were released with admonitions. The remaining 420 were still undergoing questioning, the announcement said.

This was the first time the NPH has released a nationwide figure on the number of arrests since the demonstrations began in Seoul and 19 other cities Wednesday.

Most of the 220 people put under formal arrest were college students initially detained during street demonstrations in and around Myong-dong, downtown Seoul, NPH officials said.

A total of 697 people were led away from Myong-dong and its adjacent areas Sunday alone, the officials said.

Nationwide 734 people were detained by police on Sunday, they said, adding the 37 people include 25 from Incheon, 11 from Chollanam-do and one from Kyongsangbuk-do.

The number of arrests made during the past five days stood at 3,831 on Wednesday, 295 on Thursday, 454 on Friday, 780 on Saturday and 734 on Sunday, the officials said.

20 NCDC Members To Be Summoned

SK160005 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 16 Jun 87 p 3

[Text] Seoul Metropolitan Police plans to question some 20 core figures of the National Coalition for Democratic Constitution (NCDC) this week in connection with the June 10th anti-government rallies.

Police arrested 13 leaders of the NCDC on June 13 for questioning in their suspected roles in organizing and instigating the nationwide violent protests.

Authorities will reportedly summon all of the executive members of the pan opposition group to investigate how the "illegal" rallies were organized and who led the rallies.

Seoul police, however, said the whereabouts of those suspects were not known yet, so the police have decided not to summon all the relevant people at one time, instead, will call them one by one.

A ranking policeman said the investigation will be focusing on the core members of the NCDC, charged with taking leading roles in organizing the body and preparing the massive rallies.

Protestors' Release Requested

SK160007 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 16 Jun 87 p 2

[Text] A group of five senior lawmakers of the opposition Reunification Democratic Party yesterday visited Prime Minister Yi Han-ki and called for the prompt release of those who were arrested for their involvement in the June 10 anti-torture rally and subsequent demonstrations.

They were vice presidents Yi Chung-chae, Yi Yong-hui, Pak Yong-man, No Sung-hwan and spokesman Kim Tae-yong.

The RDP Assemblymen also urged Premier Yi to lift the prolonged confinement of opposition leader Kim Tae-chung to his house in Tonggyo-dong, western Seoul, which was imposed on April 8.

Premier's spokesman Chong Yon-chun quoted the prime minister as saying, "In consideration of your opinion, I will make efforts for a good solution."

NCDC SAYS MORE RALLIES 'AS SOON AS POSSIBLE'

SK160001 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 16 Jun 87 p 2

[Text] The National Coalition for Democratic Constitution [NCDC] decided yesterday to hold again "peaceful and non-violent" protest rallies nationwide as soon as possible.

In Myong-chin, NCDC spokesman, said in a statement that the schedule and method of the protest rallies will be announced in a few days "after carefully watching how the government handles people who were detained during the June 10 protest rallies."

In a statement, the dissident coalition urged the government to retract its April 13th moratorium on constitutional debate, release all political detainees, guarantee freedom of the press and assembly, and to stop indiscriminate use of tear gas. The dissident coalition also told police authorities to stop interrogating the executive members of the NCDC, adding that all NCDC members will exercise the right to silence under police interrogation.

Key NCDC members yesterday ended their protest sit-in at the building of the Korea National Council of Churches. Last Saturday, they announced they would enter an indefinite protest sit-in to denounce the police arrest of 13 key NCDC members.

The statement said that national frustration and anger became apparent when the ruling party forced its way to implement its one-sided political schedule, against the will of the entire people.

The NCDC is a new alliance of opposition politicians, dissident, religious and human rights leaders. It was set up last month and was the organizer of the June 10 nationwide anti-government rallies.

RULING, OPPOSITION PARTIES SEEKING DIALOGUE

SK152357 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 16 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] Ruling and opposition party efforts to resume dialogue are defusing the political tension triggered by opposition rallies and student demonstrations.

Easing its earlier position of seeking resolute countermeasures, the ruling Democratic Justice Party yesterday decided to seek peaceful solutions to the current turmoil.

The DJP said it will try to arrange a meeting of leaders of four major parties and, if necessary, talks between chairman No Tae-u and Kim Yong-sam, president of the opposition Reunification Democratic Party.

RDP President Kim, however, expressed conditional willingness to accept talks with No.

"If the government releases everybody arrested for their roles in opposition rallies last week, I will accept the talks," he said during a meeting of the dissident Council for the Promotion of Democracy which he co-chairs with Kim Tae-chung.

The RDP stressed that the present political difficulties should be resolved through peaceful means.

In a related development, floor leaders of the four parties met and agreed to convene the National Assembly at an early date. Convening an Assembly session is expected to improve the atmosphere for talks between No and Kim.

The government and the ruling DJP held a series of consultations over the weekend and decided to refrain from extraordinary measures to cope with the Myongdong Cathedral incident and other developments, sources said.

Judging that the worst is over, attendants agreed that the DJP should seek contacts with the opposition, the sources added.

The position was reconfirmed yesterday in a Central Executive Council meeting of the ruling party.

Chairman No instructed party officeholders to seek ways of realizing talks among rival-party leaders.

No and other attendants, however, again stressed that the opposition RDP should cut its ties with dissident groups.

"Our position is that the No-Kim talks should be held at an early date. If necessary, we will also try to hold separate meetings between No and leaders of other parties," said a DJP official.

"If the Assembly session convenes, a favorable climate would be fostered for such talks," he said.

He said there is no change in the party's position that any disruptive activities, including student demonstrations, should be dealt with resolutely.

"Despite the position, utmost efforts will be exerted to resolve the situation in a peaceful manner, refraining from employing physical forces," said the official.

"I think that when leaders of ruling and opposition parties hold frank dialogue, a solution can be found to the current difficult situation," he added.

Meantime, the opposition RDP called for convening an Assembly session to discuss political and social developments.

The RDP said it will positively consider a meeting between DJP chairman No and its president, Kim, but made it clear that it will oppose a meeting of leaders of four parties.

RDP Sets Two Preconditions

SK160517 Seoul YONHAP in English 0508 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Seoul, June 16 (YONHAP) -- Tensions are building anew between the ruling and opposition parties as efforts to initiate dialogue designed to defuse the current political crisis hit a snag Tuesday.

In an abrupt reversal of its position, the main opposition Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) has indicated that it would boycott a planned National Assembly session as well as a dialogue between leaders of the rival parties unless two preconditions are met. The preconditions are that the government must release all the people detained in connection with the June 10 anti-government rallies and demonstrations and scrap its April 13 decision to suspend debate on constitutional revision.

The ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) reaffirmed its position that it would try to normalize the suspended National Assembly session and proceed with a meeting of the representatives of four political parties in an effort to head off the crisis.

Observers say next few days will dictate the outcome of the precarious political situation since the DJP is expected to go ahead with its position in dealing with the opposition. However, if the government party's efforts go nowhere and if anti-government demonstrations worsen, observers speculate the possibility cannot be ruled out that the nation could experience a state of emergency.

If the RDP refuses to agree to the dialogue, the ruling party will seek individual contact with other parties to continue its efforts to solve the current stalemate.

A spokesman for the DJP, emphasizing the need to compromise, said if the proposed representatives' meeting of political parties is held, his party could discuss the release of political detainees and lifting the house arrest now affecting dissident leader Kim Tae-chung as demanded by the RDP. However, the spokesman, Rep. Kim Tae-yong, warned that if a conspicuously violent situation should take place, it would be a different story, implying the possibility of a state of emergency being sought. Kim also made it plain that debate on constitutional change cannot be the subject of discussion in his party's dialogue with the opposition.

RDP URGES GOVERNMENT TO REVERSE DECISION

SK160013 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 16 Jun 87 p 2

[Text] Three opposition parties reaffirmed yesterday that they would participate in the stalled extra session of the National Assembly soon to debate the outstanding political issues which emerged in the wake of nationwide anti-government rallies on Wednesday.

The major opposition Reunification Democratic Party, the minor opposition Korea National Party and the New Korea Democratic Party decided to enter the House in their respective meetings yesterday.

The strongest opposition RDP held a meeting of key post-holders in the office of the Council for the Promotion of Democracy.

RDP's intention to "enter the National Assembly" was said to have been advocated by its president Kim Yong-sam, under the prevailing understanding that further hard-line struggle outside the institutional political forum may bring about "undesirable results" for both sides of the rival parties, one party source said.

A few RDP lawmakers, led by Yi Chol, have shown a slightly different attitude over the party's official decision to enter the National Assembly.

The group of junior lawmakers urged key post-holders of the party not to soften its previous hard-line position.

In the morning meeting, the strongest opposition party also decided to call on the ruling camp to establish a joint human rights protection committee in the House, capable of invoking parliamentary rights to investigate any abuse of human rights, party spokesman Kim Tae-yong said.

Announcing the party's decision to enter the House, the party spokesman called on the government party to release 198 'political detainees' who are under police custody for their alleged role in the countrywide anti-government rallies on June 10.

The party also requested the government and the police settle the "Myongdong incident" in a peaceful way and to stop the random use of tear gas grenades, Rep. Kim Tae-yong said.

About 250 dissidents and activist students have stood firm against riot police for the past six days in the compound of Myongdong Roman Catholic Cathedral.

The RDP once again urged the government to reverse its previous announcement postponing the debate of democratic constitutional reform until after the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

He also said in a statement that the ruling party must stop its own political schedule.

The opposition party spokesman said the RDP and the dissident National Coalition for Democratic Constitution will continue to seek alliance for the democratic constitutional revision.

He did not make clear, however, whether or not the RDP will also participate in planned nationwide protest rallies by the NCDC in the immediate future.

The dissident coalition yesterday vowed that it would again hold peaceful and non-violent countrywide protest rallies in the future.

Kim Hyon-kyu, floor leader of the RDP, said: "The major opposition party does not expect any dialogue to progress in the upcoming House session, unless the ruling party shows intentions to resume the debate on constitutional revision."

Rep. Kim Tae-yong intoned that no meaningful dialogue will be made as long as the government party sticks to its own unilateral political time schedule.

EDITORIAL ON NO TAE-U'S PRESS CONFERENCE

SK130705 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 13 Jun 87 p 2

[Editorial: "The Ruling and Opposition Parties Should Come Out With Their Second Options -- Upon Hearing Chairman No's Press Conference"]

[Text] DJP Chairman No Tae-u has made it clear that the DJP has no intention of resuming debate over constitutional revision at this juncture. For this reason, Chairman No's press conference is not likely to serve as momentum for solving the current acute situation politically.

At the press conference Chairman No Tae-u elucidated on "efforts to revise the Constitution by consensus soon after 1988" and the "term of the next president, which will be decided by agreement." At the least, he committed himself "to not finish the 7-year tenure."

Does this mean that if the opposition party does not then accept the parliamentary-cabinet system either, the DJP will complete the 7-year tenure according to the incumbent Constitution? In this connection, Chairman No said, "I will not tell the opposition camp not to join in debate over constitutional amendment if it does not agree on the parliamentary cabinet system. The parliamentary cabinet system is not the only way to democracy." Despite this flexibility, Chairman No's reference to this issue is still somewhat vague.

The question is whether the opposition camp will accept the ruling side's proposal to "wait until after 1988." In our opinion, the opposition camp seems not to accept it. Although Chairman No proposed dialogue with the opposition side with the immovable policy of "wait until after 1988," it is extremely doubtful whether dialogue will ever be held because of the precondition of "wait."

The opposition party agreeing to dialogue with the precondition of "wait" still in effect would imply its acceptance of the ruling side's political schedule as is. It is obvious that the opposition party will demand dialogue based on the immediate resumption of debate over constitutional revision.

If this forecast is correct, the future political situation will bring about only the vicious circle of offensives and defensives -- endless conflicts between the force of the ruling camp, which is only trying to push ahead with its political schedule, and the power of the pan-opposition camp, which is attempting to wage an extreme off-floor counter-struggle.

From our position, we can no longer tolerate this situation. It goes without saying that this situation will inflict immeasurable damage on the Republic of Korea, our sole homeland.

Seriously worried about this, we sincerely appeal to the ruling and opposition parties to not cling to their absolute stances, but to come out with revised proposals and alternative ideas and launch negotiations without condition.

Chairman No and the ruling party must seriously recognize that as long as this situation continues, public sentiments will never be easily controlled. We wonder up until what moment Chairman No and the DJP will cope with the situation by resorting to tear gas, riot policemen, administrative power, law stipulations, and other physical force. The ruling camp seems to take too lightly the tenor of the sentiments of the people who desire constitutional revision and democratization, to be suspicious of the morality of public power, and to deplore structural irregularities. With this lax and unilateral attitude, the ruling camp cannot cope with the situation.

We also hope that Kim Yong-sam, president of the opposition party, will energize and perform political functions without fail by coming out with diverse alternative options for dialogue and negotiations -- such as "if the ruling party puts forward a certain proposal, we will lay down a revised counterproposal." Now is the time for the ruling and opposition parties to come out with second options.

BRIEFS

AIR FORCE CHIEF PROMOTED -- Seoul, June 5 (YONHAP) -- Gen. So Tong-yul, former vice Air Force chief of staff, was promoted to the rank of four-star general and also appointed as the Korean Air Force chief of staff Friday. Sun, 53, replaced Kim In-ki, who retired as of Friday. The new Air Force chief of staff was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1956 after graduating from the Korean Air Force Academy. He served as military attache to the Korean Embassy in Britain before assuming such important posts as assistant chief of operations of the Korean Air Force Headquarters and assistant chief of intelligence of the Korea-U.S. Combined Forces Command. As a pilot, Gen. So has accumulated more than 3,600 flight hours in his career. [Text] [Seoul YONHAP in English 0143 GMT 5 Jun 87 SK]

SINGAPOREASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING CONTINUES

Lee Kuan Yew Opens Meeting

BK151407 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Mr Lee Kuan Yew says fundamental changes have taken place within ASEAN, and the next 20 years will test our ability and ingenuity as we chart new path to growth and stability. The prime minister said this when he opened the 20th ASEAN ministerial meeting.

Mr Lee said ASEAN had a 20-year track record of regional cooperation, which has contributed to economic growth, social progress, and political stability, making it a credible organization. Mr Lee said sooner or later, the world economy will enter a new cycle of growth and prosperity. We would do well to restructure our economies and prepare ourselves for this next surge of high economic activity.

The four big Pacific powers -- the United States, Japan, China, and the Soviet Union -- are all in the midst of basic change. The prime minister said the Soviet Union and China had to make basic changes in their systems to impart dynamism into their economies. Despite their different stages in development after 3 to 4 decades of unsuccessfully trying to gain political influence through military power and the supply of arms, both now realize that so long as military power is counterbalanced by the West, their weight in diplomacy depends more on economic clout than on military muscle.

On the other side of the coin, Mr Lee said the United States is faced with problems of declining competitiveness. It is in our interest, he said, to have America recover her competitiveness and become a creditor, not a debtor nation. If she did not, her position as the anchorman of the world security would be gradually reduced. Furthermore, the American market is our most important. If serious economic problems plague the U.S. then we shall have problems with our own. So, we have to hope, Mr Lee said, there will be more concerted coordination among the industrial powers to check the slowdown in the world economy.

Turning to Japan, the prime minister said she faced the problem she had created for her trading partners through her marketplace practices. The country, Mr Lee said, should not only plan major role in the international economic system she should help to revitalize it. Japan can counter the protectionist tide and set an example to the world by opening her markets, generating domestic growth and investing abroad, including investments in ASEAN. Mr Lee said ASEAN looked to Japan to increase economic cooperation through more investment and more trade.

On ASEAN's main security problem, the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia, Mr Lee said the chances for a negotiated settlement have increased. There have been reassessments of position in Moscow and Hanoi. ASEAN, Mr Lee said, wants to live in peace with all her three neighbors in the Indochina Peninsula. Vietnam (?should not leave) the solution of her Cambodian dilemma with just the Soviet Union and China. ASEAN participation under UN offices is likely to lead to better solution for Vietnam and the region.

Speaking of the forthcoming ASEAN summit in December, Mr Lee said all partners are conscious of the more adverse climate for trade and economic growth. ASEAN members are better off economically and politically now than in 1967, Mr Lee pointed out, because of the climate of stability and the growth and development that this climate made possible. ASEAN cooperation and solidarity can improve economic growth for all. Mr Lee said after 20 years, we know our strength and limitation. It is time to move forward and open up a new phase of ASEAN cooperation.

In his opening statement, the Thai foreign minister, Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, said there must be a serious search for a collective arrangement that would benefit ASEAN as well as make it economically more attractive to the outside world.

Turning to the Cambodian problem, Marshal Sitthi said ASEAN must continue its efforts to seek a viable political settlement that would guarantee the security interests of all the concerned parties.

In his opening address the foreign minister from Negara Brunei Darussalam, Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, said that although economic matters will prevail at the forthcoming ASEAN Summit other issues should not be ignored. These include social and political questions as well as the general direction of ASEAN. Prince Mohamed said ASEAN should act as one to confront the economic challenges of the future.

The Indonesian foreign minister, Dr. Mokhter Kusumaatmaja, said that the unresolved Cambodia conflict constituted the one major roadblock in efforts to transform Southeast Asia into an area of peace and prosperity.

The Malaysian foreign minister, Datuk Abu Hassan Omar, said it is imperative that intra-ASEAN cooperation be constantly enhanced. The December summit of ASEAN heads of government, he said, should be viewed as an opportunity to chart a proper course for ASEAN in the near future.

The Philippine vice president and foreign minister, Mr Salvador Laurel, said that because of ASEAN, a measure of political stability has been maintained in the region. ASEAN's economy has on the whole achieved remarkable progress. Mr Laurel also stressed the urgency of regional cooperation.

Singapore's foreign minister, Mr S. Dhanabalan, said that it is time for ASEAN to find formulae to allow for flexibility in fostering trade and economic ties between ASEAN countries. Viable cooperation projects, he said, should move ahead even if not all member countries are able to participate in the initial stage. He said ASEAN should also seek progress for a more pragmatic balancing of national and regional interests in the grouping's projects.

Thai Minister's Opening Remarks

BK160521 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 15 Jun 87

["Opening statement by Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, at the 20th ASEAN 15 June ministerial meeting in Singapore" -- read by announcer]

[Text] May I first of all express my profound appreciation on behalf of the Thai delegation for the eloquent and inspiring opening address by his excellency the prime minister of Singapore. His message has clearly underscored the theme of ASEAN cooperation and the importance which we attach to our regional grouping. We truly appreciate the valuable guidelines and directions suggested by his excellency the prime minister of Singapore.

The Thai delegation would like to thank the Government of Singapore for the excellent arrangements and hospitality extended to us since our arrival. We are always delighted and impressed to be in this country, who is renowned for efficiency and is second to none in the region. May I also take this opportunity to congratulate you, Mr Chairman, on your unanimous election as chairman of the 20th ministerial meeting. I am fully confident that under your able and skillful guidance our meeting will be most productive and enjoyable.

On behalf of the Thai delegation, I would like to further extend a warm welcome to his excellency the distinguished representative of Papua New Guinea who is attending this meeting as special observer. I wish also to welcome the special representative of the UN secretary general and the chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea. We look forward to discussing issues of common concern with him.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of ASEAN. As we launch into the third decade, we should pause to reflect on the past and ponder about the future. When we survey the history of ASEAN thus far, we can certainly say that ASEAN has come a long way. We have succeeded in preserving and promoting our individual independence and well-being as well as our collective identity and prosperity in the face of political and economic adversity.

In this connection, we must be thankful for ASEAN's commanding and influential voice in the international arena on issues of regional and extraregional contexts.

ASEAN has been hailed as an exceptional grouping of developing countries effectively practicing the cooperative spirit of political consensus and economic caucus. ASEAN has also been instrumental in assisting individual efforts by its member states to benefit in their respective development stability in East Asia over the past decade.

While ASEAN may have thus far been able to stabilise and contain the various adverse effects detrimental to our interests, such achievement should spur our continued effort to go forward and meet new challenges. It is therefore appropriate that the third summit of the ASEAN heads of state and government convening in Manila in December will critically examine the current situation and chart our course of action in the coming decade. This process will hopefully lead to self-strengthening and renewal which will prepare ASEAN to face the future with confidence and purpose.

I believe one primary issue ASEAN needs to address is the prevailing political and security environment in which ASEAN currently finds itself. For the last 2 decades, ASEAN has attempted to demonstrate the need for peaceful cooperation as well as the ability of the regional states to effect such cooperation to neutralise the threats of war and armed conflict. ASEAN has articulated its position regarding relationships among its members with the other regional states and the external powers. These positions as outlined in the Kuala Lumpur Declaration of 1971 and the ASEAN Concord and the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation of 1976 form the core of the ASEAN philosophy in political cooperation and remain valid today.

Current threats from armed conflict -- both real and potential -- remain very real, stemming from rivalries among the powers. The Kampuchean conflict, which is in its 9th year, is an obvious case of an internal conflict which has been externalized with major powers' intervention. ASEAN has continually sought for a viable political settlement that would guarantee the security interests of all the concerned parties. This effort must be kept up if we are to see our region truly develop its potentials of peace and progress to the fullest extent.

One hears pronouncements by the new Vietnamese leadership of its desire to give priority to economic reform and national reconstruction in Vietnam. Yet, Hanoi's professed concentration on national development remains dubious when it continues pursuing a policy which sows discord and antagonism in relations with Vietnam's neighbours. While continuing to impose a military rule over Kampuchea, Vietnamese occupation forces constantly violate Thailand's sovereignty and territorial integrity and launch indiscriminate attack on refugee camps and other civilian targets on Thai soil. Under such circumstances, Vietnam's offer to settle differences and conduct normal relations with its neighbours as well as its peace process proposal are not realistic.

We urge the new Vietnamese leadership to seriously review its present strategy of military occupation of Kampuchea which is unacceptable to Vietnam's neighbours. Hanoi has finally acknowledged that its people deserve a much better life of economic fulfilment and a peaceful existence; but it is doubtful if Hanoi can successfully tackle this crucial problem while continuing to place the country on a war footing vis-a-vis neighbouring countries.

Furthermore, it is up to Hanoi to match its words with deeds regarding coexistence and cooperation between Vietnam and ASEAN. To this end, the new Vietnamese leadership must recognise that security is an interdependent process; that it cannot expect to maximise Vietnam's security interests at the expense of others.

And for the entire process of understanding to get under way, I cannot see a better way than the one advocated by ASEAN which allows for a durable settlement of the Kampuchean problem based on the withdrawal of foreign troops from Kampuchea, the exercise of the right of self-determination by the Kampuchean people, and the establishment of a neutral, independent, and non-aligned Kampuchea which is friendly with its neighbours.

A harmonious regional community in Southeast Asia can come about through the resolution of political differences by peaceful means, the freedom of the indigenous states to pursue their own affairs, and cooperation between countries for mutual benefit.

This cardinal rule applies equally to relations among the regional countries and those with the external powers. ASEAN, as articulated in its proposal to establish a "Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality" in Southeast Asia, has endeavoured to eliminate adverse external interference from the region. Unfortunately, today one continues to witness such interference in the form of massive military support provided by a major external power to help realise the ambition of territorial expansion of a regional state.

Nevertheless, the international community has recently noted the various pronouncements by the Soviet leadership to pursue constructive relations with the countries of the Asia-Pacific area. While welcoming the new Soviet message of goodwill, ASEAN earnestly awaits the translation of such peaceful intentions into concrete actions.

In this respect, I announced in Moscow recently that ASEAN regards the Kampuchean problem as a test case for Moscow to demonstrate its sincerity in pursuing harmonious relations with ASEAN.

A harmonious regional community in Southeast Asia must come about also through ASEAN's effort at enhancing its own cooperation. The present atmosphere does give rise to certain hope. The recent call by the Soviet leadership, which is being echoed by the new Vietnamese leadership, for a peaceful international environment to facilitate the restructuring tasks to build stronger economic bases for their countries is a welcome development. For economic rationality should induce both the Soviet Union and Vietnam to consider the alternative of compromise settlement that would lessen their military burdens which are the principal causes of their existing economic woes.

ASEAN must not fail to seize the opportunity to spur this development particularly with regards to the Kampuchean problem. I was motivated by such a consideration to undertake a journey to the Soviet Union last month which had ASEAN's encouragement and endorsement. ASEAN is in a suitable position to try to bring all parties concerned to reason.

In the meantime, ASEAN must persevere in strengthening its political cooperation in other respects. ASEAN must be fired by imagination and boldness to consolidate our common political values and objectives to strengthen ASEAN as an organisation and as a resilient ideological force. This is a requirement if ASEAN is to adequately meet the multi-faceted challenges both external as well as within ASEAN.

We need to meet the challenge of the Kampuchean problem with renewed determination and vigor as it concerns the central question of stability and progress in our region. We need to address the issues of intra-Southeast Asian relations and external powers' involvement in Southeast Asia by rigorously pursuing our objectives as laid down in the Kuala Lumpur Declaration and the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation.

In the meantime, we need to earnestly review the progress in intra-ASEAN relations in the framework established by the Declaration of ASEAN Concord. I believe we are now in a good position to pursue such undertakings.

ASEAN's continued well-being is contingent upon its self-strengthening process through effective economic cooperation. It is noteworthy that the economies of the individual ASEAN members have undergone a dramatic turnaround for the better in recent months, thanks mainly to prudent policies adopted by the respective governments. The economic threats in the forms of protectionism, depressed commodity prices, massive debts, which are manifestations of distortions in world trade and North-South cooperation, have sharpened the awareness among the ASEAN members of the urgent need for ingenuity.

ASEAN needs to integrate better with the international community, in trading more efficiently with the world and cooperating more meaningfully with other states in our development particularly in industrialization efforts.

In the past ASEAN has proved effective as an economic caucus. As ASEAN becomes more integrated in the international economic surroundings it becomes inevitable that with various benefits entailed from international trade come also vexatious problems. ASEAN has been partaking the benefits of the dynamic and fast-growing Western rim of the Asia-Pacific area: concurrently it must also be prepared to deal with negative tendencies that come with ASEAN's growing interactions with other partners in the area.

Whatever efforts in ASEAN economic cooperation, they must satisfy the requirement of reality. It would be a folly if what we should advocate would amount to only a hollow claim. Clearly it is desirable and in fact necessary for ASEAN to be imaginative, but any scheme must conform with the consideration of shared benefits for all the members. Given the consensual nature of ASEAN cooperation, commitment does not come merely as with the expression of political will.

As ASEAN looks to its 3d decade and as preparations for the third summit are gaining momentum, we must seriously search for a collective arrangement which brings tangible benefits to our peoples, and at the same time to interact better with the outside world by making ASEAN economically more attractive.

The strength of a collective market of six countries is infinitely greater than that of six disparate markets. Hence, we must create new opportunities where such ASEAN collectivism can be fully exploited to interact with new opportunities from abroad in such fields as investment and trade.

Separately, ASEAN markets are fragmented. Together, ASEAN is one immense market opportunity.

ASEAN cooperation should not be for the sake of just trying to fit a style or a scheme that happens to have been practiced elsewhere. We must start from the premises of flexibility and practicality. Over the past two decades, ASEAN has exercised its ingenuity in promoting its collective cause. At the summit 6 months from now, a new chapter in ASEAN cooperation will hopefully be written.

Malaysian Minister Speaks

BK150905 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0849 GMT 15 Jun 87

[By Kuah Guan Oo and A. Karim Shukor]

[Text] Singapore, June 15 (OANA-BERNAMA) -- Malaysia cannot and will not be indifferent to the continuing tragedy and agony in Kampuchea, Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar said Monday.

He reiterated Malaysia's call to Vietnam and other interested parties to resolve the issue. "We will continue in our efforts to search for a political solution to the problem," he said in his opening speech at the 20th ASEAN ministerial meeting here.

It was also Abu Hassan's maiden appearance at the ASEAN foreign minister's meeting since his appointment to the portfolio last month.

The minister said there had been no lack of effort towards finding a peaceful solution to the conflict but "the knots in the problem grow intangible simply because the decision makers in Hanoi refuse to untie them on the negotiating table."

While Malaysia shared the aspiration of the Kampucheans for an early return of peace and independence, he said Malaysia also recognised that in any political settlement, the role of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the president of the UN-recognised Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea who is on a one-year leave, was crucial.

"As a leader of the CGDK, there is none more inspiring, respected and dedicated than the prince," he said, adding that Malaysia joined the other ASEAN countries in sharing his vision for the national reconciliation of the Kampuchean people in an independent Kampuchea.

Abu Hassan said Kampuchea stood as a sharp reminder that conflict in Southeast Asia "only stirs and encourages great power interest and rivalry to the jeopardy and detriment of regional stability and cooperation."

Therefore, Malaysia will continue to support the cause of the Kampuchean people in their fight against Vietnamese aggression. There is no other choice.

"We once again reiterate a clear call to Vietnam and other concerned parties not to ignore the opportunity for restoration of peace in Kampuchea and deny the entire Southeast Asian region of precious stability and harmony."

On the scheduled ASEAN summit in Manila in December, Abu Hassan said it would provide the necessary impetus for the future direction of ASEAN, particularly now that they were on the threshold of a new century.

Describing the summit as "timely", he said particular emphasis should be given to the promotion of economic cooperation and trade within ASEAN, and between ASEAN and other countries.

Noting that preparatory work for the summit had begun, he felt that they [words indistinct] "objectively and critically" ways on how "further progress can be achieved in real terms."

"We should not be merely taking stock, but should examine how ASEAN can move forward in areas that will result in tangible benefits towards the economic, social and cultural advancement of our people," he added.

On the continuing refugee problem, he said while Malaysia remained committed to the principal of first asylum, "We recognize that the problem needs to be solved at source." "We feel that Vietnam cannot ignore this pressing humanitarian problem. It must do something to ensure that a durable solution can be found," he said, adding that his ASEAN colleagues shared a similar view on the problem. He had earlier pointed out that Malaysia was one of the countries that had to bear a major portion of the brunt of the influx of Vietnamese boat people.

First Day Summarized

BK151400 Hong Kong AFP in English 1258 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Singapore, June 15 (AFP) -- Foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Monday warned that the non-communist regional bloc must improve its internal cooperation if it is to survive crises looming in the region and the world.

The future course ASEAN should follow and the continuing Cambodian crisis dominated the first day here of the 20th annual ministerial meeting of the group that comprises, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

The ministers also spoke of the situation in the South Pacific and a proposal to create a nuclear-free zone in the area.

In an opening address, Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew called on member countries to follow the example of the world's major industrialized non-communist countries in facing internal difficulties. "When these big powers accept restrictions on their economic sovereignty in the interests of the whole system, we do well to recognize that if we take steps which diminish the flow of capital, goods and services between ourselves, we shall harm each other," he said.

On the Cambodian issue, which he termed "ASEAN's major security problem," Mr Lee said: "The chances of a negotiated settlement have increased" because Moscow and Hanoi have now "put the revival of their economies at the top of their priorities." But Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila was less optimistic, saying: "Hanoi's professed concentration on national development remains dubious when it continues pursuing a policy which sows discord and antagonism." He said it was "doubtful" that Hanoi could turn to domestic economic issues" while continuing to place the country on a war footing vis-a-vis neighboring countries." Brunei's Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, saying the moment was "opportune ... to encourage (Vietnam) that there is no military solution to the problem," called on ASEAN to "persuade the Soviet Union to use its influence on Vietnam" to resume negotiations.

All agreed on the need to enhance economic cooperation, with Philippine Vice President Salvador Laurel, who is also acting foreign secretary, reviving the project of an ASEAN common market.

"The Philippines remain committed to the ultimate vision of a community of Southeast Asian nations within which goods, services, ideas and people freely flow, crossing national boundaries with little hindrance," Mr. Laurel said. He acknowledged that such a move would "entail risks for certain sectors," but added that he believed these risks were worth taking.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, asserting that "a thorough reevaluation of ASEAN" was necessary to face the future, cautioned there was "still much to be done in the fields of commercial and economic cooperation." Growth had slowed down, he said, and "ASEAN has not survived unscathed the multi-faceted crisis in the world economy and in international economic relations."

"Now we have entered an era of slower or little growth," added Singapore's Suppiah Dhanabalan, who is chairing the meeting. "The will to cooperate (between ASEAN members) will be tested."

The ministers also expressed concern over recent developments in the South Pacific, with Mr Mokhtar saying: "ASEAN's economic well-being, political stability and security are clearly linked to what is happening in the Pacific." He called for "a much more active and committed Pacific orientation on the part of all (ASEAN) member states."

And Mr Laurel, warning against the effects of "superpower rivalry" in the region, added: "The South Pacific has been stirred up by disturbing and ominous events, so that that vast area now holds not only promise, but peril."

The ministers were also set to discuss a controversial proposal to set up a nuclear-free zone in Southeast Asia. The United States, ASEAN's major Western ally, is opposed to such a plan. But conference sources said all the ministers agreed with Mr Mokhtar when he said in his speech today that such a zone, if created, should encompass the whole of Southeast Asia, and not only the non-communist ASEAN nations. "A nuclear weapon-free Southeast Asia would constitute a concrete contribution to the world-wide effort to stem the tide of ... nuclear proliferation," Mr Mokhtar said.

The ministers continue their session behind closed doors Tuesday, then spend Wednesday in informal bilateral talks. The meeting enters its final phase Thursday, with two days of discussions between ASEAN and its "dialogue partners": Japan, the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the European Economic Community.

Gist of Joint Communique

OW160957 Tokyo KYODO in English 0932 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Singapore, June 16 KYODO -- Following are the main points of a joint communique issued at the close of the ASEAN foreign ministers' meeting here Tuesday:

Third ASEAN Summit:

-- The foreign ministers reviewed the progress of the preparations for the Third ASEAN Summit to be held in Manila from December 14-16, 1987. They agreed that efforts should be intensified to ensure that the summit will provide a new impetus towards qualitative improvements in intra-ASEAN economic cooperation, the strengthening of the ASEAN machinery, the intensification of ASEAN cooperation at all levels, and the enhancement of ASEAN's international economic relations, particularly with its dialogue partners.

Situation in Kampuchea:

-- The foreign ministers...expressed their deep concern over Vietnam's continued illegal occupation of Kampuchea. The foreign ministers reiterated ASEAN's conviction that Vietnam's military occupation of Kampuchea constituted a flagrant violation of the fundamental principles of international law embodied in the Charter of the United Nations. Vietnam's military occupation of Kampuchea, now in its ninth year, also violated the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states and the right of the Kampuchean people to self-determination. The invasion and occupation of Kampuchea by Vietnam continue to pose a grave threat to peace and stability in Southeast Asia, thus endangering international peace and security.

-- The foreign ministers once again called for a comprehensive political settlement in Kampuchea based on a total withdrawal of foreign forces, the restoration of Kampuchea's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, self-determination for the Kampuchean people under UN auspices and the achievement of national reconciliation in Kampuchea. They called on Vietnam to accept an independent, neutral and non-aligned Kampuchea.

-- The foreign ministers reaffirmed the validity of the ASEAN foreign ministers' joint appeal for Kampuchean independence of September 20, 1983 and reiterated their support for the CGDK's eight-point proposal of March 17, 1986 as a constructive framework for negotiations. They urged Vietnam to reconsider its rejection of the eight-point proposal. They also called upon the international community to continue to support the proposal.

-- The foreign ministers reaffirmed their support for the CGDK under the presidency of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. They were heartened by the military successes achieved by the nationalist resistance forces against the Vietnamese occupation.

-- The foreign ministers also recorded their warm appreciation to the international community for its continued support of the CGDK.

-- The foreign ministers reviewed the diplomatic efforts of ASEAN to help achieve a comprehensive and durable political settlement for the Kampuchean problem. They

reaffirmed ASEAN's commitment to continue efforts in seeking such a solution in accordance with the relevant UNGA [United Nations General Assembly] resolutions on the situation in Kampuchea.

-- The foreign ministers urged the international community not to forget the plight of the Kampuchean people in their just struggle against the Vietnamese aggression. They called on all countries, including the Soviet Union, to urge Vietnam to settle the Kampuchean problem peacefully.

Indochinese refugees:

-- The foreign ministers...expressed deep concern over the serious plight of Kampuchean refugees and displaced persons uprooted because of the continuing Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea. The ministers deplored the shelling and firing into civilian camps at the Thai-Kampuchean border.

-- The foreign ministers...were gravely concerned that while resettlement in third countries was slowing down, the influx of Vietnamese refugees and illegal immigrants by sea to the ASEAN countries, especially Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines and Indonesia has continued unabated.

-- The foreign ministers...urged Vietnam to end the exodus of refugees and illegal immigrants to neighboring countries.

ZOPFAN:

-- The foreign ministers reaffirmed ASEAN's determination to pursue efforts towards the realization of the Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN) in Southeast Asia, while recognizing that the Kampuchean problem remains an obstacle to the attainment of this objective.

Review of ASEAN Cooperation:

-- The foreign ministers noted the progress that was achieved in ASEAN economic cooperation.

-- The foreign ministers noted with satisfaction the continued intensive cooperation in the socio-cultural and scientific fields.

-- The foreign ministers signed the supplementary agreement to amend the Basic Agreement on ASEAN Industrial Joint Venture (BAAIJV) which raises the minimum margin of tariff preference for AIJV products from 50 percent to 75 percent.

Private Sector and Non-Governmental Organizations: (omitted)

Drugs: (omitted)

Cooperation With Dialogue Partners:

-- The foreign ministers noted that further progress had been made in ASEAN's cooperation with its dialogue partners, namely, Australia, Canada, the European Community, Japan, New Zealand and the United States. ...The foreign ministers stressed that in the conduct of its dialogues with the developed countries, ASEAN would continue to attach great importance to commercial and industrial cooperation, market access, investment and technology transfer. They expressed the hope that further progress would be made in these areas.

-- The foreign ministers expressed the view that Japan could play a greater role in the economic development of ASEAN and in facilitating closer ASEAN economic cooperation. The foreign ministers noted that the large trade surplus and foreign reserves of Japan would enable it to assume such a role. Japan could also help to facilitate the flow of Japanese investments to ASEAN through the provision of attractive financial assistance and incentives for its private sector. The foreign ministers welcomed Japan's readiness to help promote industrial development in ASEAN through the provision of favorable financing support.

-- The foreign ministers noted the firm action taken by President Ronald Reagan in vetoing the Jenkins Bill and in resisting other protectionist legislation in the Congress.

They however felt that in the light of the persisting budget and trade deficits in the United States, protectionist pressures in the Congress would continue to threaten ASEAN's export interest and could force the U.S. Administration to take protectionist measures against ASEAN's exports. They urged that protectionism should continue to be resisted in the interests of all concerned.

International Economic Issues:

-- The foreign ministers noted that weak economic growth of the developed economies and the adverse effects it had on the growth and development prospects of the developing countries. They expressed grave concern over the proliferation of protectionist policies, level of commodity prices; the instability of exchange rates; and the lack of a comprehensive solution to the world debt situation.

The foreign ministers emphasised the importance of maintaining and strengthening the open trading system as embodied by GATT. They called on all countries to actively support GATT and to strengthen the rules of international trade through cooperative efforts in the Uruguay round.

-- The foreign ministers viewed with concern the continuing debt problem in many developing countries. They expressed regret that a comprehensive solution to the debt burden of the developing countries had still not been found. This has threatened the international financial system and affected the growth prospects of both developed and developing countries.

Commission on South-South Cooperation: (omitted)

Disarmament: (omitted)

West Asia: (omitted)

Afghanistan: (omitted)

ASEAN Secretariat: (omitted)

Twenty-First ASEAN Ministerial Meeting:

The foreign ministers agreed that the 21st ASEAN ministerial meeting will be held in Bangkok on July 4-5 1988.

SPOKESMAN SUPPORTS LAO COMMUNIQUE ON THAI ACTS

BK150659 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0502 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Phnom Penh, 15 Jun (SPK) -- The spokesman of the PRK Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in a statement made public on 13 June, voiced full support for the communique issued on 6 June by the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the occasion of the 3d anniversary of Thai aggression of the three villages of Mai, Kang, and Savang in Paklai District, Sayabouri Province of Laos.

Spurning the good will and multiple efforts of the LPDR to normalize relations with its neighbor, the statement said, the Thai authorities, far from putting an end to their hostile policy against the Lao Government and people, continue to violate the Lao-Thai joint communiques signed in January and April 1979 by intensifying acts of sabotage along the border between the two countries.

The stubborn attitude of the Thai authorities in their relations with the LPDR is part and parcel of their hostile policy against the three Indochinese countries, the policy based on an increasingly close political as well as military collusion with U.S. imperialism and Chinese expansionism. Thailand's keeping of the Polpotist remnants and Lao counterrevolutionaries on its territory, its support for the latter's acts of infiltration and sabotage against the PRK and LPDR, and its repeated charges of so-called "violations" of Thai territory by Cambodia's people's armed forces and Vietnamese volunteers as well as its attempt to sow division among the three peoples of Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia obviously show that its policy which is supported by Beijing and Washington constitutes at this moment a serious obstacle to the intensive efforts of the countries in this region for a constructive dialogue and for a peaceful, stable, and cooperative Southeast Asia.

The government and people of the PRK reaffirm their unreserved support for the new efforts and good will mentioned in the 6 June 1987 communique of the LPDR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and demand that the Thai authorities respond to them with positive and constructive acts in the interests not only of the Thai and Lao peoples but also of all peoples in the region.

VARIOUS SCHOOLS' STUDENT ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Phnom Penh SPK in English 1105 GMT 3 Jun 87

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK Jun 3 -- Students of various general education schools in Kampuchea have actively taken part in social activities such as the proselytization of misled people, fund raising drives to help combatants, etc.

In the first semester of this school year, students, in Battambang and Kompong Thom persuaded 67 people led astray by the enemy propaganda to return to the revolution with 41 assorted guns and other war materials.

In the same period, over 2,300 students in the provinces of Kandal, Takeo, Kompong Cham and Battambang volunteered to join the army. Among them 1,200 were from Kandal.

Moreover, the students have helped peasants in various localities gather their crops and build irrigation network.

They have also organized sport and art activities to raise fund for frontline combatants.

In Kompong Thom and Kandal Province alone, senior high school students recently collected 6,000 riels (Kampuchean currency) for this purpose.

Through those activities in this school year, 21,000 students have become members of the Young Pioneer Organization of Kampuchea, or members of the People's Revolutionary Youth Union of Kampuchea, and 402 educational workers members of nucleous groups and 23 others, members of the party.

CHEA SOTH ATTENDS KFTU MEETING ON FAMILY ECONOMY

BK011243 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1126 GMT 1 Jun 87

[Text] Phnm Penh SPK June 1 -- Last year, some 78 percent of the state employee's families throughout Kampuchea practised family economy, increasing by from nearly 20 to 30 percent over the 1984-85 period.

This was heard in a report presented at a two-day recapitulatory meeting of the Kampuchea Federation of Trade Unions (KFTU) held recently in Phnom Penh with the participation of Vice Premier Chea Soth and the KFTU president and vice president Mat Ly and Heng Teav respectively and representatives from various ministries, cities and provinces throughout the country.

The report notably said that the family economy, one of the four economy sectors -- the state economy, the collective economy, the family economy and the private economy -- adopted at the Fifth Congress of the PRPK, has expanded strongly in the provinces of Battambang, Kompong Cham, Kompong Speu and Pursat, which has involved from 86 to 90 percent of the state employees' families.

In 137 factories, enterprises, and public offices located in Phnom Penh and the provincial capitals of Battambang, Takeo, Pursat, Kampot, Kandal, Kompong Chhnang, Kompong Cham, Kompong Speu and Kratie, 42,355 workers have engaged themselves in family economy acitivities, promoting various side-line occupations such as livestock husbandry, farming and handicraft.

Last year, those people produced 10,700 tons of rice, 475 tons of maize, 3,483 tons of cassava and taro, 2,500 tons of beans and 5,200 tons of vegetables and fruits. In livestock breeding, they kept 21,320 head of cattle, 33,276 pigs, 320,790 fish and 303,000 domestic fowls which laid over 1.8 million eggs. As a result, each family could earn an additional income twice as much [as] its yearly supply by the state.

With the help from the state, the KFTU plans to engage by the year 1988 from 80 to 90 percent of the worker's families in this movement so as to help each worker get an additional monthly supply of from 28-35 kgs of starchy foods, 10-15 kgs of meat or fish, 50-70 kgs of vegetables and fruits, and 500 riels (Kampuchean currency) through handicraft production.

To that end, the agricultural services in all provinces and cities will supply the workers with seeds, breeds of cattle and poultry, animal fodder, vaccine, etc, and the industrial services in those localities will supply those who wish to do handicraft work with raw materials and tools.

BOU THANG VISITS FACTORY WORKERS IN PHNOM PENH

BK110915 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 11 Jun 87

[Text] Yesterday afternoon Comrade Bou Thang, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, visited workers at the textile and sandal factory in Tuol Kouk [in suburban Phnom Penh] to hear their views and to talk to them in a most cordial atmosphere.

During the visit, Comrade Bou Thang attentively listened as the workers spoke of their hardships, production facilities, and life. The comrade praised the achievements scored by the workers and said these results have contributed to defending and building the country.

Comrade Bou Thang also spoke to the workers about the situation of the Cambodian revolution and major tasks for 1987, particularly that of promoting the emulation movement to increase production to serve the people's needs. The comrade vice chairman of the Council of Ministers also stressed the task of building real revolutionary forces among workers and called on them to pay attention to expanding family economy, such as production and animal husbandry, so as to raise their living standards.

SON SANN TO SEEK USSR HELP WITH 'CAMBODIA PROBLEM'

AU111554 Paris AFP in English 1547 GMT 11 Jun 87

[Text] Paris, June 11 (AFP) -- Son Sann, prime minister of Cambodia's anti-Vietnamese resistance government, said Thursday that he would appeal to Moscow "to find a solution to the problem of Cambodia."

Mr Son Sann, who is to visit Bucharest next week, said in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that he hoped to convey the appeal through official Romanian intermediaries.

Mr Son Sann is expected to ask the Soviet Union to cut off its support for Hanoi until Vietnamese troops end their occupation of Cambodia.

Romania has repeatedly offered to serve as a mediator in the Cambodian conflict, since it maintains good relations with Vietnam, the Soviet Union and the resistance coalition that unites the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge and two anti-communist groups headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Mr Son Sann.

Mr Son Sann, who found himself at the helm of the coalition -- which is recognized by the United Nations -- when Prince Sihanouk relinquished his duties for a year in May, is conducting a tour of Europe to drum up support for the Cambodian resistance forces.

He said he would appeal to Moscow to "end the misfortunes of the Cambodian and Vietnamese people and find a solution to the problem of Cambodia."

Meanwhile, the coalition premier said that he would ask the United Nations to designate a security zone around the temples of Angkor so specialists could perform necessary restoration work.

SIHANOUK COMMENTS ON CAMBODIA'S POSSIBLE FUTURE

HK150844 Hong Kong AFP in English 0830 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Beijing, June 15 (AFP) -- Cambodia is faced either with becoming a Vietnamese province or again falling under Khmer Rouge rule, former Cambodian resistance coalition leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk has said.

In either case, Prince Sihanouk said in a document reaching foreign correspondents here Monday, the coalition would be condemned by the people of Cambodia.

Prince Sihanouk relinquished May 7 for one year his presidency of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK), complaining of attacks by strongest coalition partner the Khmer Rouge on his forces.

His latest remarks were made in the introduction to a dossier containing extracts from press and human rights organisations' reports on the atrocities committed by his two coalition partners on Cambodian refugees in camps along the Cambodia-Thailand border.

"Our struggle against the Vietnamese makes no sense seeing that we, the CGDK, oppress, despoil and bully our own citizens in the refugee camps," said the prince.

The association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and other backers of the coalition, wrote Prince Sihanouk, "Defend the undefendable, that is the defence of an anti-Vietnamese Khmer resistance movement that only offers the people of Cambodia the perspective of a future similar to the past embodied by the (Pot Pot Khmer Rouge) regime".

"Our people, in the majority, remain passive and resigned between the Khmer Rouge 'hammer' and the Vietnamese 'anvil'", he wrote.

The two other partners in the United Nations-Recognised coalition are the Khmer Rouge and the non-communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front of Son Sann.

The Khmer Rouge, supported by China, is held responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Cambodians during the three years it was in power in Phnom Penh under Pol Pot.

It was ousted by Vietnamese troops in late 1978 and the Vietnamese remained, establishing the current Heng Samrin administration.

BRIEFS

HEALTH COOPERATION WITH CSSR -- Phnom Penh SPK May 30 -- A plan for cooperation in public health and medical sciences between Kampuchea and Czechoslovakia for 1986-90 was signed in Prague Wednesday. Signatories were Czech Minister of Health Jaroslav Prokopec, and Kampuchean Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Chim Nguon. [Text] [Phnom Penh SPK in English 1105 GMT 30 May 87 BK]

PASASON ON U.S VIEW OF NUCLEAR FREE ZONE

BK141047 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 9 Jun 87

[9 June PASASON commentary: "Why Does Washington Not Support the Idea of Establishing a Nuclear-free Zone in the Asian Pacific Region?"]

[Text] Indonesia has proposed turning Southeast Asia into a nuclear-free zone. This initiative has received increasing support from the ASEAN group, which consists of Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Brunei. These countries are drafting a document on a nuclear-free zone for Southeast Asia.

The Reagan administration, however, rejected the idea immediately it was announced. During a recent meeting between the U.S. secretary of state and the Indonesian foreign minister in Washington, the U.S. side said that it will not respect the status of Southeast Asia as a nuclear-free zone just as it does not respect the Rarotonga Agreement -- an agreement establishing a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific region which has been enforced and signed by 13 countries. New Zealand, a cosignatory to this agreement, has gone further by enacting a law to suspend its antinuclear policy [as heard], thus drawing vigorous criticism from the United States, which has announced the withdrawal of New Zealand's status as an ally of the United States and has even begun to consider economic sanctions against the country.

New Zealand, like other countries in the South Pacific region, has pursued this policy due to its concern about the worsening situation in the region. For example, the U.S. Seventh Fleet in the Pacific has been equipped with more missiles with nuclear warheads, and the U.S. military has tested the latest weapons in this region in preparation for a space war. France has also been testing nuclear weapons at Mururoa Atoll. Militarism has also been stepped up in the Indian Ocean. In so doing, the United States has raised its global interests as an excuse.

Therefore, it is clear that the United States and its allies have not thought of ending the policy of nuclear threats or other tricks in dictating to the people of other countries.

There is now a clear understanding in Asia and the Pacific that to get rid of the danger of a nuclear war, the first thing is to remove nuclear weapons from the region. Another thing is to establish a nuclear-free zone. This is why the idea of establishing nuclear-free zones has taken shape in the international political area.

'PRESS RELEASE' ON PARTY'S FOURTH PLENUM

BK151105 Vientiane KPL in English 0915 GMT 15 Jun 87

["Press Release on Party CC Fourth Plenum" -- KPL headline]

[Text] Vientiane, June 15 (KPL) -- The 4th Plenum of the Party Central Committee (4th Congress) chaired by General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan was successfully held here from June 5 to 15, 1987.

Many questions were discussed at this plenum, but emphasis was laid on the country's educational planning from now till the year 2000 and a number of policies on prices, taxes, external trade and distribution of goods and money with the aim of creating favourable conditions for the switching to the new mechanism of economic management.

On the educational matter, the plenum reviewed the work in the past 11 years. It reaffirmed the soundness of the party's line stating: "Education must be one step ahead of other activities, education is the core of the cultural-ideological revolution, education is the key to the successful socialist transformation and construction in the country." It held that the basic educational conceptions are the instruments of the dictatorship of the proletariat, that education must serve the political tasks and production, that education is the task of the entire public, and that the teaching personnel are the party's staff.

The plenum reaffirmed the important role of educational activities in the new phase of the revolution.

It was unanimous on the working out of an educational policy covering the period from now up to the year 2000. This is to resolutely expand and improve the domains of study, and step by step strive to improve the quality of the socialist educational network. This will accordingly serve the special characteristics and the needs of the nation's socio-economic development. This will also serve the fulfilment of the two strategies of the new revolutionary period.

The Party CC's plenum held that the raising of the educational quality is a priority. In order to do that, educational reform -- principally, the reform of the general and vocational education -- is required. Specific goals in forming a new generation of socialist men must be determined. There must be a suitable policy and means to raise the role and prestige of the teaching personnel. More capital must be put in education, and detailed measures defined for the teaching and learning.

The meeting completely agreed on the goals, basic tasks, measures and guideline in educational reform. The plenum agreed on the educational guideline and tasks to be executed in the current five-year plan (1986-1990) in which the basic requirement is to expand the already scored success, and appreciation of the party's educational guideline, conception and goals must be raised. The educational control network must be improved. We must create favourable conditions for the standardization of education, and resolutely work in preparation for the firm and step-by-step educational reform.

Having heard the report on the implementation of the January 20, party Political Bureau Resolution No 4 on the pricing policy, the party Central Committee discussed and basically agreed on the new principle of uniform pricing agreed upon. The determination of prices must reflect the average value of the social demand manifested in the market. It must conform with the supply and demand principle and the real money value. The new prices must contribute to the enhancement of production, the expansion of goods and money distribution. It must, in the main, guarantee the stabilisation of market prices.

The meeting stressed that the introduction of the new pricing policy must be tactful and suitable for the market situation. It must be accompanied by a clear definition and division of the rights to control prices. The state, the central and local authorities, only need to fix the prices of certain commodities which the state can definitely control. Prices of other commodities, the units of production and business concerned, can determine by themselves.

On taxes, the meeting stressed that taxes policy is a very important economic lever that enables the state to restructure production, the supply and demand, the redistribution of suitable social income sources.

The essence of the new taxes policy's to boost the various economic branches to take part in the production of consumer goods and export. This policy is to stabilize the agricultural tax, grant or reduce taxes on the restored or newly set-up production or business enterprises and on certain export items. The principle whereby taxes are to be paid only once (either at the production point or at the time of entrance into the country) is to be implemented, and this, in the main, is on the basis of interests made. We must introduce taxes which eliminate all forms of arbitrary tax collection which hinder production and distribution of goods.

Regarding the prices and taxes issues, the meeting of the party CC instructed the Council of Ministers to further study the matters in detail and to be rapidly implemented.

The meeting hears [as received] the report on the implementation of the ethnic policy. It stresses the need to enhance the vigilance of the people against the attempts of the enemies to spray division among various ethnics and adopted several measures in order to consolidate the solidarity within the Lao multi-racial people and to enhance the revolutionary enthusiasm of the people. To do so, we have to pay greater attention on improving the standard of living of the people and to enhance their political consciousness and the level of education.

The meeting of the party CC also assessed the world situation and that in the region as well as the party's foreign policy implemented in the recent period.

The meeting highly assessed and wholly supported the just stance, the high sense of responsibility of the Warsaw Treaty members for peace and international security as reflected in the resolution of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty Organization on May 29. It also supported the statement on military doctrine of the treaty country members.

The meeting totally supported the peace initiatives advanced by M. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU CC, on May 19, 1987, on the elimination of nuclear weapons in Asia and considered it an important contribution to the turning of the Asia-Pacific [region] into a zone of peace, stability, good neighbours and cooperation.

The meeting expressed its satisfaction to the success of the official friendship visit to the Lao PDR by Politburo member of the CPSU CC, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Soviet Union Eduard Shevardnadze as voiced in the Lao-Soviet joint statement. The meeting also wholly supported the policy of restructuring of the economy currently being carried out in the Soviet Union.

The meeting fully supports the Vietnam-Soviet joint communique signed on May 22, 1987 in which the Soviet Union expressed its unchangeable support to the struggle of the Vietnamese, Lao and Kampuchean peoples for the socialist construction and the defence of national independence and sovereignty, for the strengthening of the fraternal relations and all-round cooperation among the three Indochinese countries for peace, and security in the region, in Asia-Pacific and in the world.

The meeting hailed the further development of the special relations and all-round cooperation between Laos and Vietnam as well as those among Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea. We are going to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Lao-Vietnam Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation next month (18/7/77-18/7/87). The celebration of this historic day is a festive occasion of friendship imbued with the special solidarity between Laos and Vietnam. This friendship and solidarity is a crucial factor and law assuring revolutionary victory and development of each country.

The plenum reaffirmed its strong support for the correct stance and good will of the People's Republic of Kampuchea regarding its readiness to hold talks with individuals and groupings of the opposition for national reconciliation on the basis of the elimination of the Polpotist genocidal remnants, and hence solving the Kampuchean issue by political means on the principles that the domestic affairs of Kampuchea must be solved by the Kampuchean people themselves and that the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer troops from Kampuchea must be carried out in conjunction with the stopping of armament and other material supply to the Polpotist gang, as well as the stopping of the use of Thai territory as a springboard by the Polpotist and other Khmer reactionary forces and the ending of foreign interference in and hostile acts against the PRK.

The plenum expressed its agreement with a proposal by the party's Foreign Relations Commission and the Foreign Ministry for urgent preparations for a summit conference of Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea to be held in the future, aiming at consolidating the militant solidarity and all-round cooperation between the three fraternal parties and countries in the new stage.

The plenum heard the reports on the results of the first round of Lao-Chinese talks and the two rounds of Lao-Thai talks. It reaffirmed the correctness of the unchangeable and goodwill policies of the Lao PDR on the furtherance of talks with the People's Republic of China and the Kingdom of Thailand, aiming at normalizing the Lao-Chinese and Lao-Thai relations on the basis of peaceful co-existence and improving the long-standing friendship between the Lao and Chinese peoples as well as the brotherly and neighbourly relations between the Lao and Thai peoples.

The plenum heard a report on the success of the roundtable review meeting held in Vientiane on June 3-5 as a followup of the meeting in Geneva in April, 1986 regarding international assistance to Laos in the next five years. It expressed its thanks to the friendly countries, the world and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations for their participation in the meeting and valuable assistance and support to the socio-economic development and the improvement of the living conditions of the Lao people.

The plenum heard reports on the assessment of the results in the execution of the first six-month Budget Plan and on the amendment to the last six-month Budget Plan for 1987. The plenum appealed to the entire party and people to make further efforts to implement the tasks of national defence and socialist building and the 1987 Socioeconomic Development Plan. It called for the taking of precaution measures against unexpected natural calamities, and the boosting of the main rice season production in coordination with the development of cooperatization in the rural areas.

BRIEFS

MEMORANDUM WITH AUSTRALIA -- Vientiane, June 5 (KPL) -- A Lao-Australian memorandum was signed here on June 2. It was agreed in the memorandum that Australia will offer Laos 2,398,000 Australian dollars for continuing the construction of an irrigation project. Earlier, another memorandum on Australian help had been signed. According to this memorandum, Australia will give Laos 1,297,000 Australian dollars for continuing the construction of a mechanical repair workshop at kilometre 18 as well as the training of Lao workers. Signatories on the Lao side was Khamsing Sai-Gnakon, first deputy minister of agriculture, forestry, irrigation and agricultural cooperatives, and on the Australian side, Ambassador Philip Allan Jackson. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 5 Jan 87 BK]

BOMBS EXPLODE IN MANILA COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

HK160217 Hong Kong AFP in English 0209 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Manila, June 16 (AFP) -- Bombs planted by unidentified men exploded in the Makati financial district here Monday, slightly damaging two commercial buildings but causing no casualties, police said Tuesday.

The bombs went off within an hour of each other at daybreak Monday at a shopping mall and a bank, district police chief Colonel Fernando Angara said.

He said investigators had no suspects so far but those who planted the bombs "apparently are people who would really like to create fear."

Col Angara said the bombs appeared to have been made from dynamite and could have been the handiwork of professionals.

He said a local press report that "right-wing radicals" were being suspected was pure speculation.

Police said another bomb had gone off Sunday at Santo Domingo Roman Catholic church in neighbouring Quezon City, but there appeared to be no immediate connection with the Makati blasts.

Further on Bombs

HK160445 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Four bomb explosions have rocked Metro Manila since Friday. Two blasts occurred in Makati early yesterday morning. One was aimed at the Upchem Building along Makati Avenue and the other at the Urban Building along Buendia. The explosions took place almost simultaneously. Damage was minimal and no one was hurt.

Sunday, an explosion damaged toilets of the Santo Domingo Church in Quezon City. The church was the scene of an earlier blast which damaged its parking area. The bomb seemed to be minimal, more to scare off people than to hurt them.

NPA THREATENS BARANGAY LEADERS IN METRO MANILA

HK160213 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Police and military authorities yesterday [15 June] promised protection for barangay officials following death threats sent by NPA sparrows to at least 12 barangay chairmen in Metro Manila. The death threats were the NPA's reaction to the cooperation by barangay chairmen and the police and military intelligence efforts against the NPA in the metropolis. The authorities immediately implemented security measures to protect the barangay chairmen and other officials. The threat against the barangay leaders came from the Alex Boncayao Brigade of the NPA who said they will retaliate against the barangay officials if they continue their involvement in the anti-insurgency campaign in Metro Manila. President Aquino approved the plan by the military, police, and local officials for cooperative intelligence efforts to track down NPA sparrow units operating in Metro Manila.

ARMY COMPLAINS ABOUT ANTI-INSURGENCY LIMITATIONS

HK121445 Quezon City MALAYA in English 12 Jun 87 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] Top Philippine Army commanders yesterday complained to President Aquino that strict legal requirements on arrest and prosecution hamper their drive against communist "front" organizations.

The president, in turn, advised the 30 Army brigade and regional commanders in a closed-door dialog at Malacanang to abide by the "democratic process" in pursuing their job. She also assured the Army officials that the counterinsurgency campaign would be strengthened to enable the military to cope with the rebels' intensified operations in urban areas and the countryside. [passage omitted]

Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno quoted the president as telling the soldiers: "We have democracy. We should not be too impatient in realizing that there are matters which we just cannot take care of."

The president said the two-hour dialog was "very cordial," and the Army officers were "frank in their complaints."

The officers reportedly told Mrs Aquino that lack of sufficient evidence prevents them from putting under control front organizations of the New People's Army.

Benigno said the officers also noted that in many instances, soldiers hold their fire against the rebels for fear of being accused of human rights violations later.

Despite these setbacks, the president reportedly assured the Army officers that "they are on the right track" in the war against the insurgents.

"We have won resoundingly in the elections which proves that democracy is the overwhelming choice of the Filipino people," the president was reported to have told the officers.

Benigno said the president said that "staff promotions" in the military would be given for exceptional performance, unlike in the past when favoritism dampened the morale of the soldiers. [passage omitted]

GOVERNMENT APPROVES PROTOCOL II ON HUMAN RIGHTS

HK121425 Manila THE PHILIPPINE STAR in English 12 Jun 87 pp 1, 8

[By Efren Danao]

[Text] The government widened yesterday the range of human rights enjoyed by its citizens by committing itself to an international humanitarian law that seeks to protect civilians living in areas where the Armed Forces and dissidents are engaged in an armed struggle.

This commitment to broaden human rights was formalized yesterday with the taking effect of Protocol II in addition to the Geneva Convention of August 1949.

"Protocol II covers only situations of non-international armed conflict, but its provisions confirm the determination of the international community to limit the human suffering caused by civil war," Commission on Human Rights Officer-in Charge Abelardo Aportadera said.

The protocol prohibits the forcible displacement or hamletting of civilian populations unless the security of the civilians or military reasons so demand.

It also prohibits any orders that there shall be no survivors, while stressing [the] respect of non-combatants with no adverse distinction between persons.

The government is now also committed to avoid salvaging, taking of hostages, tortures, mutilations and any act of violence against the life, health and physical or mental well-being of persons.

The Armed Forces are enjoined to direct their attacks solely on military objectives, not to employ weapons that cause excessive or unnecessary losses or suffering. The government will also respect the right of captured combatants and civilians to correspond with their families, to receive relief, and be entitled to fundamental judicial guarantees.

Aportadera also said President Aquino has made additional commitments to human rights by signing an international commitment authorizing any Filipino who is a victim of human rights violations to go straight to the United Nations without passing through the Commission on Human Rights.

Pierre Dela Coste, information delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), said the ICRC notes with satisfaction the accession of the Philippine Government to Protocol II, which makes it one of 61 states party to the international humanitarian law.

He expressed the hope that the Philippines would also accede to Protocol I which relates to the protection of victims of international armed conflicts.

The human rights commission yesterday also held a dialog with Armed Forces and police officials on the implications of Protocol II and on the imperatives of human rights protection.

Narciso Monteiro, chief legal officer of the commission, said that aside from dissemination of information and education of the public on Protocol II, the commission would also emphasize the strengthening of the people's courage to assert their human rights.

CENTRAL LUZON REGIONAL UNIFIED COMMANDER INSTALLED

HK160735 Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 0700 GMT 16 Jun 87

[Text] Central Luzon Regional Unified Command [RUC] chief Brigadier General Benjamin Cruz relinquished his post to RUC 8 commander Brigadier General Bayani Fabric at simple rites held at Camp Aquino in Tarlac this morning. Cruz asked that he be retired on August 31 this year after 30 years in the military service. He held the RUC post for only 8 months.

Before bowing out from the service, Cruz was awarded the distinguished star, the third highest military award, by AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief General Fidel Ramos.

A graduate of the Philippine Military Academy, class 1957, Cruz distinguished himself as combat officer in the Mindanao campaign and in the anti-insurgency drive of the government.

MINDANAO CHRISTIAN GROUP DEMANDS INDEPENDENCE

HK150906 Hong Kong AFP in English 0895 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] Manila, June 15 (AFP) -- A small armed group claiming to represent disenchanted Christians in the southern Philippines has demanded an independent state and called for the downfall of President Corazon Aquino.

The Mindanao Christian Liberation Front (MCLF) said in a statement signed by self-styled Brigadier General Perdro Montojo and copies of which were received in the mail here Monday that Mrs Aquino was worse than deposed President Ferdinand Marcos.

"We are left with only two choices: Total independence or war," said the statement.

It said Mrs Aquino was "too much" and should now be replaced, accusing her government of being "worse in corruption, election frauds, dynasty, abuse of power and in making the people poorer to perpetuate themselves in power" than the Marcos regime.

The MCLF, founded earlier this year on Northern Mindanao, implicitly claimed responsibility for a fire that hit the Moslem-Christian city of Iligan June 5, destroying part of the commercial district.

Iligan police believe Moslems started the fire.

"War has started in Mindanao. Iligan was only the beginning. My men are already distributed throughout the island," the Christian leader's statement said.

"We will not stop," it continued. "We will continue doing our thing like arson, destruction of bridges, explosion of government-owned broadcast stations and public buildings, and even burning residences of public officials."

AGRARIAN REFORM SAID DISRUPTING CREDIT FLOW

HK130905 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 13 Jun 87 p 25

[Text] The Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) will erode confidence in the credit system as most commercial banks are now reluctant to finance large-scale agricultural or aquaculture projects pending the final provision of the executive order, Edgardo Espiritu, Philippine National Bank [PNB] president, said yesterday.

Espiritu said that all banks in Negros Island have stopped lending except PNB because of the retention limit of land ownership to individual and corporate owners and the prospect of banks absorbing the losses after valuation of the collaterals.

He said that borrowers may opt for cash payment from the government and forget about their agricultural or aquaculture ventures with the banks ending up with a large inventory of non-performing assets.

Banks in Negros have stopped lending to fishpond owners and prawn culture ventures when the latest draft of the executive order included fishponds in the program. The CARP limits individual and corporate ownership to seven hectares only by 1997. Most agricultural or aquaculture projects, however, require more than seven hectares for viability.

The loss of confidence in the credit system is not good. It must be resolved soon by the government," Espiritu said.

Espiritu said that although PNB is the biggest financier of the agricultural sector handling 25 percent of the formal lending particularly in sugar, the bank's role in the agrarian reform program is not yet defined.

The PNB chief said that he shares the view with other banks that the draft EO [Executive Order], if implemented, would do "more harm than good" to the country's agricultural development thrust. He said that the Bankers Association of the Philippines (BAP) is preparing a position paper to be sent to President Aquino detailing the urgent need to study further the implications of the program on the country's banking system.

The 10-year CARP, to be implemented starting this year, has earmarked some P45.7 billion with more than P1 billion readily available from the national reconciliation and development program which is aimed at rehabilitating rebels who give up the armed struggle and engage in livelihood projects.

A supplemental budget of P2.7 billion is expected to come from the surrendered cash and sale of sequestered assets under the jurisdiction of the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG), proceeds from the sale of non-performing assets by the Asset Privatization Trust will able be used for the multibillion-peso project.

The CARP covers all private agricultural lands and public lands (including lands owned by government entities) regardless of tenurial arrangement and commodity produced.

Under the latest draft, no person, association or corporation may own or retain, directly or indirectly, agricultural land in excess of 50 hectares by July 1, 1990, 24 hectares by July 1, 1992, and seven hectares by July 1, 1997.

REACTION TO NEW LAND REFORM PROGRAM NOTED

Survey Shows Favor

HK121515 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 12 Jun 87 pp 1, 11

[By Tony Bergonia]

[Text] An overwhelming majority of Filipinos want President Aquino to enact a law on land reform before Congress convenes.

This was the finding of a survey recently conducted among 4,400 respondents by the research group, Social Weather Station (SWS).

Over two-thirds of the respondents said they agreed the President should wield her decree-making powers in turning into law the proposed Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP).

SWS said the results of the survey were "indicative of the urgency of an accelerated land reform program and the special need for the President's family to participate in it."

Some 75 percent of the respondents said Hacienda Luisita, the sprawling sugarcane plantation in Tarlac belonging to Ms. Aquino's family, should be included in CARP.

SWS conducted the survey nationwide, from October last year to last March. The survey's results were presented by SWS President Mahar Mangahas to President Aquino on June 3. Mangahas is also a member of a technical committee helping the Cabinet design the government's land reform program.

It was only yesterday that copies of the survey were released to reporters.

In addition, the survey found that the dominant view among Filipinos on the twin issues of compensation for landowners and payment from land reform beneficiaries were a "compromise" reflected in the new Constitution's provisions on the subject.

The survey "shows that the dominant view among Filipinos is a 'centrist' one combining partial compensation and partial payment," said the SWS report.

The SWS said the charter's requirement on full compensation coupled with affordable payment is "in effect, a compromise."

A "strong but not dominant rightist view" that the government must pay the full market value of lands was adopted by 28 percent of the respondents, the survey said.

A "leftist" view that the government must confiscate and redistribute lands for free was "weak" and represented only five percent of the respondents, it added.

Other findings of the survey were:

-- Some 67 percent of the respondents agreed with the proposal to expand the coverage of land reform to include sugarcane and coconut lands.

-- Some 65 percent agreed that big estates and haciendas should be included in land reform.

-- Some 62 percent agreed that only a few public lands should be included in land reform.

-- Some 63 percent were satisfied with the Aquino administration's performance on the land reform issue.

-- Some 51 percent said the Aquino administration has done better than the Marcos regime on land reform.

Meanwhile, President Aquino yesterday received representatives of farmers' organizations in Malacanang but was non-committal about issuing an executive order on land reform until she has met with the landlords.

"All of us have our goals but we cannot accomplish everything in one giant step," Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno quoted Ms Aquino as telling the farmers' leaders.

The farmers, led by Florentino Bascog of the Congress for People's Agrarian Reform and Benjamin Cruz of Sanduguan, wanted Ms Aquino to sign into law the May 25 draft land reform executive order before Congress convenes on July 27.

The May 25 draft of the Cabinet Action Committee on Agrarian Land Reform limits the landholdings of an individual or a corporation, regardless of crop type, to seven hectares by 1992.

But the President answered that she will have to meet with the landlords first. "Whatever I do, there will be those who will be angry with me," Benigno quoted Ms Aquino as saying.

Earlier, the President met with Acting Negros Occidental Gov. Daniel Lacson who warned her that "civil war could erupt" if the government immediately includes sugar lands in the land reform law that Ms Aquino is expected to sign soon.

Lacson said he told the President that Negros should be allowed first to proceed with the 60-30-10 formula that the provincial government, the sugar planters and farm workers have agreed upon and then let Congress decide later on if sugar and coconut lands, and aquaculture and corporate farms be included in the land reform.

"I don't threaten, I don't dramatize, I only give the facts, Lacson told reporters when asked about the possibility of unrest breaking out in the island.

Negros Governor on Reform

HK130855 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 13 Jun 87 p 10

[Text] Negros Occidental Gov. Daniel Lacson warned of dire consequences should the government's land reform program include the distribution of sugar lands, telling President Aquino Thursday that "civil war might break out in the province."

Lacson, governor of one of the most depressed provinces in the country, said many landowners find the proposed agrarian reform program unfair, especially one provision which provides an initial 10 percent cash compensation for the appropriated land.

"If that happens, you'll have a civil war in the province," he said.

He said a group of landowners are now arming themselves and training an armed force which is ready to go into action at a moment's notice.

"Many thought I was joking when I said there might be civil war," Lacson said. "But you can go to Negros and see for yourself."

He said land reform has become a very emotional and sensitive issue among Negros landowners who feel gravely concerned about losing their lands and having to live with a maximum of seven hectares.

Lacson said the only way to save the situation in Negros is for President Aquino to agree to a land distribution formula called "60-30-10" which the governor said is acceptable to the landowners.

The formula calls for 60 percent retention for planters, 30 percent of the land to be used for crop diversification and 10 percent of farm lands distributed to the farmers.

Lacson suggested that Congress should pass a law providing for "flexible modes of compliance to allow partnership arrangements between owners and employees, land sharing formulas, share divestment schemes and organization of cooperatives and corporations where both landowners and employees may continue to develop agricultural enterprises."

He said President Aquino understands the situation in Negros as well as in many parts of the country, adding that it was a wise decision of the government to hold public hearings before finalizing the proposed program.

He said some people in his province find it unfair that while the government was encouraging them to engage in agri-business like prawn farming, it is now taking steps to kill the same industries that it wanted established by reducing land ownership.

Groups React

HK121535 Quezon City MALAYA in English 12 Jun 87 pp 1, 2

[By Joel Paredes and Jun Lopez]

[Text] Negros Occidental Gov. Daniel Lacson yesterday told President Aquino that landowners on Negros Island were serious with their threat to foment civil war there if she goes ahead with her controversial land reform decree.

This developed even as Malacanang was besieged by lobbying groups from both landowner and farmer sectors who have been further polarized over President Aquino's agrarian reform program, which she has pledged to decree into law before the new Congress convenes in July.

Landowners, while unanimously agreeing that a land reform law should be enacted, want the President to wait for Congress to sit and let the body legislate it.

On the other hand, the farmers are pressing the President to act immediately, fearing that Congress -- the majority of whom they said are landowners -- might water down Mrs Aquino's plan or delay its implementation.

In other developments yesterday:

-- The National Democratic Front called the program part of a United States-designed counter-insurgency thrust that would cater only to the interests of big landlords and multinational corporations.

-- Landowners went on a propaganda offensive to preserve their estates, publicly warning President Aquino to leave land reform to Congress or risk trouble in the countryside.

-- Agrarian Reform Undersecretary Jose Medina Jr. said the government would continue its consultations with landowners and farmers as it is determined to launch a comprehensive program before Congress convenes.

After his meeting with the President, Lacson said he told Mrs Aquino that sugar planters have trained at least 200 armed men to fight the government if land reform were carried out on Negros Island.

Although 21 of the 26 sugar planters associations in Negros welcome his 60-30-10 land-sharing scheme, which is being offered as a compromise, Lacson said there were members who have been campaigning for a civil war.

Right now, Lacson said, the landowners feel their land holdings were threatened by the government and this issue could explode.

"The situation there right now is very emotional, very sensitive," Lacson said.

But, he said, the President merely replied: "There will be no civil war."

Medina, who told MALAYA that the issue has further "polarized" the landowners and the farmers, said that even with the continuing dialogs with both sectors, the government's land program is not going to be a compromise.

"It will give substance to what the 1986 Constitution mandates," Medina said.

Agriculture Secretary Carlos G. Dominguez III also told newsmen that there was also a debate over the valuation of expropriated land, particularly among the landowners.

Dominguez said officials have not ruled out the possibility of distributing land for free, particularly the government-owned and idle lands.

Yesterday, President Aquino herself led consultations with farmers groups at the Palace. She first met with the Congress for People's Agrarian Reform and later with the Agrarian Reform Beneficiary Association and the Sanduguan.

Ambrosio Lumlbao, President [of] Pambansang Katipunan ng mga Samahang Nayon [National Association of Village Cooperatives] said that in their dialog with the President, they pressed for the immediate implementation of a land reform program that should cover all agricultural lands.

Lumlbao said that if the President leaves to Congress its implementation, the program might take 5 to 10 years. "We believe that the executive order is very human enough. It would benefit farmers, as well as the landowners," he told MALAYA.

Meanwhile, Satur Ocampo and Antonio Zumel, NDF spokesmen, said in a press conference that the program should be based on the peasant struggle to ensure that it would be effective and genuine and that it would truly serve the peasants.

Ocampo said the NDF's land reform program reflects the interests of struggling farmers and farm workers. It is thus the genuine program, he added.

Zumel said the NDF program is now being practiced in several rebel base areas and has benefited thousands of farm workers and farmers.

Ocampo said the NDF program calls for the confiscation of landholdings of big landlords and their free distribution to the farmers. It eliminates usury, increases the wages of farm workers, and reduces land rent, among others.

Meanwhile, a group called the Landowners Task Force Committee took out a full-page ad in a Manila newspaper that warned Mrs Aquino in dire terms to refrain from issuing a land-reform decree.

Sugar planters from the island of Panay said in an open letter to Mrs Aquino in the same newspaper that she should hear landowners' side in ongoing public hearings and "not give us cause to doubt your sincerity."

They said sweeping land reform could destroy the middle class and sow chaos.

Negros Landowners Oppose Reforms

HK101347 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 10 Jun 87 pp 1, 11

[By Carla Gomez]

[Text] Bacolod City -- The Movement for the Independence of Negros, formed recently by sugar planters, yesterday announced it was training men to fight the government should the "ill-planned" land reform program be implemented through an executive order.

A spokesman of the bellicose group who refused to be identified said former military men in Mindanao are helping train the movement's "soldiers" in the hinterlands of Negros Occidental "ready to take up arms if the accelerated agrarian reform program and the 60-30-10 sharing scheme is carried out."

Col. Miguel Coronel, Negros Occidental commander, said he has heard of the movement's "training plan" and that "precautionary measures" have been taken. He did not elaborate. He also said he has sent messages to the planters dissuading them from taking up arms.

The movement has been boasting of its connections with the an underground vigilante group called "El Tigre" which was founded a few months ago, ostensibly to fight the communists. It is widely believed that the same well-armed group was responsible for the bombing of the residence of Bishop Antonio Fortich several weeks ago.

The movement surfaced last Sunday and gained its initial notoriety when some 100 of its members, wearing black ski masks, burned about 500 rubber tires in the heart of the city and announced their threat to rise against the government should the land reform program be carried out through an executive fiat.

"The divisive, confiscatory and ill-planned land reform program being presented by the Manila government is myopic and will only cripple Negros," a spokesman said then.

During their noisy rally, the speakers took turns in blasting away at the government and the Roman Catholic Church for advocating a Malacanang-ordered reform program that covers lands planted to sugarcane and coconut trees. Ferdinand Marcos' land reform program covered only rice and corn lands.

The last speech was incendiary. "Let us ignore any government policy that we do not like. Let us start a boycott of cane operations, including harvesting this milling season. And if this is not enough, let us take up arms," the speaker said.

A leaflet distributed among those who attended the rally said: If government officials in Manila are not willing to understand the plight of the people of Negros, there is no use in their governing us and we might as well separate from their government."

The movement does not want any expanded land reform program and is apparently hoping that members of Congress would better understand the plight of sugar-producing areas like Negros in formulating a land reform program. The movement says that the economy of the province would plummet as a result of mass layoffs of sugar workers if the Malacanang version of the land reform program is implemented.

The members of the movement also said it was not true that they authorized Gov. Daniel Lacson to fight for a 60-30-10 scheme of land usage ratio. Under this scheme, a landowner would retain 60 percent of his land, give up 30 percent to be used as payment for loans he borrowed from lending institutions and the like, and 10 for distribution among his tenants.

Group Urges Reform

HK111147 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 11 Jun 87 p 7

[By staff member Corrie Salientes]

[Text] The Bishops-Businessmen's Conference (BBC) yesterday urged President Aquino to issue an executive order that will spell out the urgent need for a comprehensive urban land reform program and thus prompt the newly-elected Congress to act on it immediately.

In its pre-conference workshop on urban land reform and housing at the Makati Sports Club yesterday, the BBC began preparing its recommended set of legislations on urban land reform that it will soon submit to President Aquino.

The proposed program should address the lowest 30 per cent of the country's total urban population which is estimated at five million, BBC Executive Director Teresa Nieva told THE CHRONICLE.

Nieva, a former Constitutional Commission (Concom) delegate, said the program may require at least two million hectares of land for redistribution.

The BBC Committee on Financing headed by Teodoro Katigbak, secretary general of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council, cited government institutions like the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (Pagcor), Government Service and Insurance System (GSIS), Social Security System (SSS) and the Pag-Ibig [Home Development Mutual Fund] Fund, among others, as possible sources of funding for the program.

To minimize costs, a committee member has proposed a land swapping scheme whereby the government will offer to exchange public lands outside urban areas for private but idle urban lands that are covered by the program.

The committee also called for an inventory of government lands in urban areas that are to be covered by the program.

"Government lands in the urban areas alone may be enough to meet the needs of the program," a committee member said.

Nieva said previous attempts to implement an urban reform program, provided for by Presidential Decrees 1517, 1640, 1642 and 1216 issued by former President Marcos have failed, citing graft and corruption and erroneous implementation.

The problems were recognized in the programs but something went wrong in the implementation, she said.

Urban land reform programs under the old government benefitted only a few of the poor but more of the better-off and influential.

The Marcos urban land reform program failed because of defective laws which limited the areas and beneficiaries covered; lack of funds; failure to fully operate implementing machinery; and public misconceptions including the notion that lands were to be expropriated and given free to beneficiaries.

Luzon Farmers Against Plan

HK150228 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 14 Jun 87

[Text] Landowners in Central Luzon are against the government's comprehensive land reform program, claiming it is unjust, oppressive and whimsical and would likely worsen the conflict between farmers and landlords. The program is too pro-farmer and makes ownership of agriculture lands a crime, said Agustin Dizon who spoke on behalf of Central Luzon landowners during a public hearing on land reform in San Fernando, Pampanga, last Friday.

About 500 Central Luzon farmers attended a hearing presided over by Agriculture Undersecretary Dante Barbosa. Seven groups of farmers, who came with placards urging the immediate implementation of land reform, asked if they can own lands for free because they are not yet capable of paying landowners due to indebtedness.

In Mindanao, landowners in Davao and Cotabato have threatened to support the Mindanao secessionist movement if the government takes away their land holdings. This was declared during the land reform hearing at the Central Bank Building in Davao City last Saturday. According to Edmundo Madrago, president of the Davao City Chamber of Commerce, the Aquino land reform program will destroy the middle class and will result in the eventual ruin of the country's economy. He also said it will trigger violence.

U.S. TO BE ASSURED ON HMONG REFUGEE STATUS

BK160200 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 Jun 87 p 2

[Excerpts] Singapore — Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila will assure U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that Hmong asylum-seekers from Laos will be allowed to claim for refugee status in a screening process witnessed by the UNHCR when they meet here this week to resolve the three-month-old dispute, THE NATION learned yesterday.

At the same time, the Thai foreign minister is also expected to seek reassurance from Shultz on long-term U.S. commitment to take in Hmong refugees from Thailand. The United States recently responded by setting a ceiling for Hmong refugees to be resettled in the U.S. from Thailand at 9,000 for the present fiscal year, but in a message sent to Sitthi last month, Shultz turned down a suggestion by Deputy Foreign Minister Prapas Limpabundhu for the U.S. to take half of the Hmong population in Thailand.

However, Sitthi will stand by the Thai policy to push back Lao illegal immigrants if they fail to apply for the refugee status here or are "screened out." The two-tracked policy was recently worked out to reaffirm the Thai stand towards Indochinese refugees and at the same time, as a self-protective measure.

Thailand is concerned over the prospects of having to permanently shelter the Indochinese asylum seekers, particularly the hilltribe people who have been used to their own way of life different from the majority lowland Thai people. Some Hmong people taking shelter at the Baan Vinari refugee centre in Loei have been accused of involvement in drug trafficking and smuggling of contraband from Laos. [passage omitted]

Thai authorities have contended that there were forced to shift emphasis from the humanitarian measures to immigration law due to the decline in the rate of resettlement for Hmong refugees in third countries and the growing arrival rate. At present, Lao displaced people totaled about 82,472 compared to 24,736 Kampucheans and 9,106 Vietnamese. The Laotians here are broken down into 58,547 hilltribe people (mainly Hmong) and 23,925 low-land people.

The United States has been the only third country to have taken in most of the Hmong refugees from Thailand but the annual resettlement rates have sharply gone down for about seven years from the peak of 28,927 in 1980. The rates from 1975 onwards are 454 for 1975, 4,953 for 1976, 2,481 for 1977, 5,424 for 1978, 13,328 for 1979, 28,927 for 1980, 4,437 for 1981, 3003 for 1982, 1,414 for 1983, 2,401 for 1985, [year as published] 2,330 for 1985, 4,349 for 1986 and 2,026 as of April 30 for this year.

New Hmong Community Planned

BK140220 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 Jun 87 p 3

[Text] The new resettlement community where about 5,000 Hmong communist defectors will be released under a five-year, 139-million-baht programme in Tak is part of the security strategy to establish defence communities in sensitive border areas throughout the country, a senior official told THE NATION yesterday. The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Hmong villagers would be evacuated from Thungyai Naresuan, straddling Tak and Kanchanaburi, also because they have been denuding the lush forests where creeks and other water sources abound. These Hmong villagers have also cultivated opium in their nine village communities.

Apart from the Hmong villagers, landless lowland people including army reservists would also be resettled in Phop Phra Sub-district of Tak so that they can help guard the frontier, said the official who added that the project would involve the resettlement of some 1,200 families or about 8,000-9,000 people.

The Cabinet last Tuesday approved a request to earmark 139.23 million baht for the five-year programme. In the first year, 11.25 million baht will be allocated to the project from the Central Fund.

The official said that Hmong mountain people were resettled at Thungyai Naresuan after they surrendered to the authorities. The hilltribe people were the mainstay of the northern armed forces of the Communist Party of Thailand (CPT) during its heyday.

Calling the security-oriented development programme for the new resettlement as the "most comprehensive plan ever", the senior official said that many ministries and national agencies would take part in the implementation. They include the Third Army Region, which will serve as the coordinator, six departments in the Agriculture Ministry, several other departments in the Interior Ministry, the Education Ministry, the Public Health Ministry, and the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDRICTM).

The Cabinet also approved a request for the appropriation of 171,700 baht from the Central Fund to finance the launching of the pilot project to repatriate mountain people who have been crossing the northern frontier from Burma at an alarming rate.

Chiang Rai provincial administration will carry out the pilot project which would involve the Wa tribe, from the northern province.

Similar projects have been contemplated for other northern provinces, particularly Chiang Mai and Mae Hong Son.

The Thai Government mapped out the strategy of pushing back Burmese mountain people three years ago after the deadline to take in immigrants had expired. However, it has not been able to put the strategy to practice due to some technical problems. This specific pilot project was approved last year but was delayed due to budgetary constraints, the official said.

Thai authorities feel that mountain people have been illegally entering Thailand because of the prospect for a better life here. The repatriation strategy has been worked out to deter further influx of Burmese mountain people into Thailand.

ARMY OFFICIAL TALKS ON CAMBODIAN BORDER SITUATION

BK131145 Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai 2300 GMT 12 Jun 87

["Army Meets the People" program: Recorded statement by Colonel Bandit Malai-arison, deputy commander of the Burapha Task Force, on the situation along the Thai-Cambodian border, given at a 9 June press conference in Prachin Buri Province]

[Text] First I would like to report on the military situation along the border. As you know, the Heng Samrin government in Cambodia has been supplied with weapons and officials from the Soviet Union. This continued during the period under review. The Heng Samrin government continues to implement the K5 plan. In a bid to strengthen its hold along the border, the Heng Samrin regime mounted mopping-up operations against the CGDK forces along the border.

As a result, security at Thailand's border has been threatened. As you have already learned from mass media reports, incursions by small units and clashes by patrol forces along the border constituted a violation of Thailand's sovereignty. Members of the Burapha Force operating along the border were injured by land mines. A number of Thai villagers suffered losses as a result of the spillover from heavy weapon and artillery shelling. A number were killed. Several houses were damaged. That was the effect of the fighting between the forces of Heng Samrin and the CGDK along the Thai-Cambodian border.

Next I would like to report about our suppression operations against armed Cambodian bandits. We have told the authorities concerned to step up efforts in this regard. Today we arrested 10 of them in Ban Kut Wian. We have brought them here today, and reporters can ask them questions after the end of this press briefing. The more frequent incidents of robberies by Cambodian bandits early this month may be the result of our order banning Thai villagers from going up into the mountains to tend their crops. The bandits can no longer abduct our people for ransom or to get food supplies. They are therefore forced to infiltrate villages for plunder or for extortion. We have noticed that in some cases the Cambodian bandits did not care about the people's property or supplies. I have instructed soldiers of the Burapha Force to find out their real motive.

Concerning security for the people in connection with the mining of roads, we have instructed commanders of the 1st, 2d, and 3d Task Force Infantry Battalions to comb their areas and arrange daily patrols. We have sought cooperation from the provincial authorities for this. We may have to impose a temporary curfew, but we will first discuss this plan with the provincial authorities and the police.

COOPERATION PLANNED WITH MALAYSIA TO STOP SMUGGLING

BK121004 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] Thai and Malaysian customs officials in intensifying their efforts to combat smuggling will, starting today, be able to chase smugglers operating in the Andaman Sea into each other's territorial waters, a senior customs official said yesterday.

The decision to allow the cross-border pursuit was made during a meeting on Tuesday between senior southern Thai customs officials and their Malaysian counterparts who agreed to intensify cooperation in fight against smugglers using sea routes, said Anan Phananon, chief of the southern Customs Bureau.

He told THE NATION that the "opening" of territorial waters will enhance joint naval operations by Thai and Malaysian authorities.

Customs officials of the two nations recently decided to join hands to crack down on smuggling activities in the Andaman Sea. They agreed to clamp down on smugglers once every two months, or if possible every month, as part of their joint operations.

Anan said that under the agreement, Thai and Malaysian officials can chase smugglers up to three kilometres in to each other's waters. He emphasized that this will be allowed during the operational-phase only. But he added both sides may consider on a case-by-case basis cross-border chase requests when there are no joint operations.

Previously, law enforcement officials while pursuing smugglers had to give up the chase once the smugglers fled into the territorial waters of the other country.

The regional customs chief said the agreement should be regarded as a "compromise" between the two countries.

While entering Malaysian waters, Thai customs boats will be accompanied by Malaysian vessels and vice versa, according to Anan.

It was also agreed that Thai smugglers arrested in Malaysian waters will be handed over to Malaysian authorities with the same applying to arrests made in Thai waters, he said.

He denied that the increased cooperation means that the situation concerning smuggling in the South is getting worse. "We only want to cooperate more," he reiterated.

Anan praised the Malaysian customs for being "sincere" in cooperating with Thailand. "Our relationship is now excellent due to good understanding between us," he said.

Anan himself expressed confidence that the better-equipped Malaysian customs will make the campaign successful.

He also said that Thai marine police are likely to join the anti-smuggling drive soon.

Thai and Malaysian marine police have frequently launched joint sea patrols to help suppress smuggling.

Anan said Thai customs are also seeking cooperation to suppress widespread smuggling near duty-free shops in Malaysia.

The Thai side wanted Malaysian customs officers to provide them with necessary information like names of customers of the duty-free shops to make it easier to trail suspected smugglers, he said.

Anan, meanwhile, said the on-going drive against palm oil smuggling in the South has been successful with palm oil prices in the region rising by 20 per cent due to the current shortage of smuggled oil.

He said that in May alone, customs officers seized more than 25,000 kgs of palm oil smuggled in from northern Malaysia, compared with only 6,662 kgs during the same period last year.

Soldiers To Suppress Plundering

BK141158 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 13 Jun 87

[Text] Soldiers of the Burapha Force have joined with provincial authorities in efforts to suppress illegal immigrants plundering people along the Thai [-Cambodian] border. Major General San Siphon, commander of the 1st Infantry Division and of the Burapha Force, told reporters the following:

[Begin San recording] Our area of responsibility is behind this line at Chong Phun and Phokha, which is even beyond the rear area of the Burapha Force. In fact, the area is under provincial administrative responsibility but the Burapha Force cannot remain idle.

We are keeping track of them no matter where they may be. Anyway, the place is big and the number of Cambodian refugees at Site 2 is over 120,000. It is natural that some of them may have sneaked out from our control. The military cooperates with the provincial authorities to crack down on those people. We have not given up this duty. We have continued giving support to provincial authorities. Concerning the joint meeting which our chief of staff said will be held soon, I believe this will include Cambodian supervisors from the camp too. In fact, the duty of the Burapha Force is to protect the border areas. Anyway, we cannot remain idle when there are difficulties involving our people at the border. I think it is also my responsibility. If they sneak out, we arrest them. This includes Cambodian civilians fleeing from the camp. But if they are armed and if they clash with us, we will kill them. We have killed armed bandits in clashes many times before. We have the figures. Anyway, of the 12 persons who have been arrested, two of them are women. [end recording]

LAOS FAILS TO RESPOND TO BORDER MARKET OFFER

BK150115 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 Jun 87 p 5

[Text] Laos has failed to respond to an invitation from Mukdahan Province to participate in a weekly open market on the Thai side of the border, a local official said.

Phairot Kanchanaphan, the province's Muang district chief, said a joint committee of government and private sectors of Mukdahan opened a market on the banks on Medong River last Wednesday and invited Laotians in Savannakhet to join in. He said the Thai side was also prepared to facilitate Laotians who wanted to meet their friends and relatives in Mukdahan.

But he said Laotian authorities in Savannakhet did not respond to the invitation and no Laotian merchants crossed the river to trade with the Thais.

He said only four authorized agents came to buy goods from Thais.

Kawi Suphathira, assistant governor, said the market days might be rescheduled to Saturday and Sunday.

ARMY TO INTRODUCE VOLUNTEER SERVICE NEXT YEAR

BK140216 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Jun 87 p 1

[Text] The Army expects to welcome the first batch of volunteer soldiers in May next year, Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiut said yesterday.

Confirming that a voluntary recruitment system is to be introduced, Gen Chawalit said this would gradually replace the current annual conscription and raise the professional standard of Army personnel.

A volunteer army will lay the groundwork for the modernisation of the Army, including the introduction of new technology to raise its fighting ability.

The Army is in the process of amending its regulations to phase out conscription and to allow the recruitment of volunteers.

Gen Chawalit said he believed this would enable the Army to attract personnel better suited both physically and mentally to serve the country.

Voluntary recruitment would also enable the Army to recruit personnel according to its actual needs, he said.

In the past, he said, the Army had spent a lot of money training conscripts but the results have never been entirely satisfactory.

The Army is now working on a plan to determine how many volunteers are to be recruited next year.

Gen Chawalit said volunteers would serve only in certain units at first.

The minimum time volunteers will have to serve has not yet been decided. But the Army commander said it would not be too long so that volunteers would not face difficulties finding civilian jobs at the end of their service in the Army.

The Defence Ministry is to be asked to amend certain laws to allow the new voluntary recruitment to begin.

If the idea proves a success, the Army may close down its non-commissioned officer training school because volunteers will be promoted to commanding positions currently manned by graduates from the school. Initial plans had called for voluntary enrollment to be introduced in November but it was later decided that there was not enough time to change the system by then, Gen Chawalit said.

He said the Army was planning to install computers in its directorate office and later to all other units. "We can't stay put," he said. "We must be aggressive and walk forward."

"Let's not talk about how much money it will cost," he said. "It is our major policy to modernise the Army."

The Army now has staff qualified to handle computers if they were introduced, Gen Chawalit said.

DEMOCRAT LEADER DISCUSSES PARTY, COALITION PROBLEMS

BK150225 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jun 87 pp 1, 3

[By Soemsuk Kasitipradit]

[Text] The Democrat Party's internal conflict and coalition government disunity will lead to the dissolution of Parliament before the end of the year, the party's secretary-general predicted over the weekend.

The Democrats' 15-man administrative committee and 16 party ministers meet today to discuss ways to salvage the party's popularity following its defeat in the June 7 Bangkok by-election.

Secretary General Sanan Khachonprasat admitted to the BANGKOK POST that the Democrat Party's internal problems could lead to government instability and make it difficult for Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon to work as head of the coalition.

Growing disunity among the coalition partners makes the dissolution of Parliament the only and best way out for the government, he said.

He predicted that the government would dissolve Parliament before the end of the year unless the problem was quickly corrected.

He cited last week's deliberation of the copyright report by the House Foreign Affairs Committee as an example of growing disunity within the coalition.

Several Democrat Party members on Thursday expressed dissatisfaction with the Social Action Party [SAP], another coalition partner, for blocking debate on the copyright report, which the Democrats view as an issue of vital national interest.

The Democrats claimed the SAP defied a resolution by the government parliamentary coordination committee to allow debate on the report before moving on to other items on the agenda.

At least 20 members of the Democrats' dissident January 10 Group reportedly sided with the opposition on that day by voting in favour of debate on the report.

But they were eventually defeated by pro-government MPs who backed a proposal that another issue on the agenda be brought up for discussion.

The SAP and Democrat parties have blamed each other for the controversial draft amendment to the copyright law. The amendment is strongly opposed by many students, politicians and several leading academics.

During the interview Lt-Col Sanan also admitted that the January 10 Group was still a disruptive element in the party.

The group's disagreement with the party's leadership and resolutions has caused the party's popularity to plunge sharply.

Lt-Col Sanan, who is also deputy communications minister, said he realises the Democrat party will lose a large number of seats if Parliament is dissolved and a new general election held.

"But this appears to be the only way for the party to come back and rebuild itself," he said.

He said that after another general election, the party would be able to rid itself of dissident members and those who were not wholeheartedly loyal to the party.

As party secretary general, he said, he has tried in vain to solve the party's internal problems. "Maybe by allowing the boat to sink, we can salvage it later and revive its popularity," he said.

VICE PREMIER COMMENTS ON AILING STATE ENTERPRISES

BK150235 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jun 87 p 3

[Text] Most state enterprises that are losing money have too many employees and pay them too much, Deputy Prime Minister Sonthi Bunyachai said yesterday.

Adm Sonthi, who is chairman of the Committee to Improve State Enterprises, said the solution is to lay off excess employees or improve management.

Asked why the committee hadn't accomplished more since being set up, Adm Sonthi said that it has often had difficulty collecting information.

He also said the committee had to take into account the welfare of state enterprise employees before making decisions.

He pledged, however, that the committee would draw up a master plan for the improvement of state enterprises soon.

"We are pushing them to submit their improvement plans as soon as possible so that we will be able to conclude the master plan," he said.

The committee, which met yesterday at Government House, discussed the improvement plan submitted by the Thai Maritime Company.

He said that only one of the four proposals in the plan -- to invite investment in the company from within and outside the country -- had been found feasible.

The committee, Admiral Sonthi said, had ordered the company to map out a new plan using this as a guideline and to resubmit it for consideration.

BRIEFS

CANADIAN AMBASSADOR LEAVES -- Canadian Ambassador to Thailand John L Payntre paid a farewell visit to Deputy Prime Minister Admiral Sonthi Bunyachai at Government House on 3 June. The outgoing Canadian ambassador thanked the Thai Government and people for cooperation given to him during his tour of duty. He stressed that his country had considerably contributed to the cause of Indochinese refugees out of its great sympathy for Thailand. [Summary] [Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 3 Jun 87 BK]

NEW KUWAITI, POLISH AMBASSADORS -- The king today separately received credentials from (Lucian Myszkowski), the Polish ambassador to Thailand, and Al-Issa Abdul Rahman Al-Issa, the Kuwaiti ambassador to Thailand. [Summary] [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 11 Jun 87 BK]

NHAN DAN CONDEMNS CHINA'S 'EXPANSIONIST POLICY'

BK151338 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Text] The Vietnamese national daily NHAN DAN on Sunday [14 June] ran a commentary condemning China's expansionist policy.

The paper said: The Chinese authorities conducted a big military exercise in the waters of Truong Sa -- Spratly -- Archipelago of Vietnam from 16 May to 6 June 1987. The exercise involved both Chinese ground and naval forces and it was called by China a big naval deployment. In fact it is a show of force in the East Sea, very far from the Chinese territorial waters.

Following its threat to use force it occupy one of the islands of the Truong Sa Archipelago of Vietnam in April 1987, China has repeatedly sent many vessels to conduct illegal activities in these areas. The recent military exercise was another evidence of China's scheme toward our territory in this area. Since long the Chinese have tried to reverse the sovereignty of the Hoang Sa [Parcel Islands] and Truong Sa Archipelagoes of Vietnam 13 years ago and now they are scheming to occupy the Truong Sa Islands. They repeatedly conducted provocative activities and violated Vietnam's sovereignty over the two archipelagoes. These activities and the recent military exercise of China are the latest proof of its violation of Vietnam's territorial sovereignty. They have caused further tension in the Vietnamese-Chinese. [as heard]

In a statement, the spokesman for the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry has pointed out that this military exercise is an act threatening peace and stability in Southeast Asia. Since China's occupation of Hoang Sa Archipelago, public opinion in the region has expressed their worry that Beijing does not respect any rule or international law and even has ambition on other islands in the East Sea.

Even public opinion in the West has asserted that China's dangerous act of provocation can easily turn this region into a hotbed between China and Vietnam as well as between China and other countries in Southeast Asia. China's activities in this sea area have shed more light in the view of number of countries in the region that China poses a longstanding threat to peace and security in Southeast Asia. Public opinion also noted that China's military exercise coincided with the recent Beijing visit by Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Forces Admiral Ronald Hayes and the conclusion of a visit to the United States and Canada by Yang Shangkun, a high-ranking Chinese official.

Is that a gift or a significant sign to Washington?

NHAN DAN stressed that the Chinese people's genuine interests urge the Beijing authorities to make active contributions to consolidating peace and security in Asia and the Pacific, especially in Southeast Asia. Attempts to further strain the situation and seek conflict, confrontation, and a show of force have nothing in common with the peoples of China and other countries in Southeast Asia.

We once again affirm Vietnam's sovereignty over the Hoang Sa and Truong Sa Archipelagoes. These archipelagoes have always been part of the Vietnamese territory. Vietnam has on many occasions produced evidence confirming real possession of these archipelagoes when they were not yet partly occupied by other countries and proving that the Vietnamese state has continuously exercised her real sovereignty over these archipelagoes.

The Vietnamese people are resolved to struggle to defend their sovereignty over the Truong Sa and Hoang Sa Archipelagoes, and they are determined to oppose any violation of their sovereignty and scheme of expansion to these archipelagoes.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES HOLD MEETINGS

Hanoi Delegation Meets

BK120920 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 12 Jun 87

[Text] On 11 June at the Hanoi People's Committee headquarters, the Hanoi delegation to the Eighth National Assembly met to prepare for the agenda of the first meeting of the National Assembly. All the 31 deputies from Hanoi, including Comrades Nguyen Van Linh and Nguyen Thanh Binh, attended the meeting.

Discussing the statute of the National Assembly and the function and duties of deputies, the deputies expressed views on such issues as maintaining contact with voters and meeting the people after each National Assembly session in order to settle the people's complaints and deal with their letters of denunciation. Comrades Nguyen Van Linh and Nguyen Thanh Binh and many other deputies animatedly expressed their views on these subjects. In the spirit of renovation, the Hanoi deputies suggested that the new National Assembly should notify the people of the agenda of National Assembly meetings and on this basis make proposals and petitions in the meetings. The system of reporting the results of National Assembly meetings to voters should also be improved. Particularly, they should detail the Hanoi deputies' contributions to those meetings.

As regards contacts with voters before the meetings, the Hanoi deputies also suggested that voters' representatives should pay attention to petitions and suggestions in a constructive spirit and should avoid grumbling and denunciation.

As for the activities of the Hanoi delegation to various National Assembly meetings, the Hanoi deputies unanimously agreed to upholding the collectivity of these activities such as expressing views in subcommittees, reporting the results to voters, and making statements to the National Assembly.

To enable the delegation to make positive and effective contributions, the participants in the meeting suggested that the Hanoi delegation would not only attend the meetings of the people's councils but would also have meetings with the standing members of the city people's committee in order to exchange constructive views and contribute to the various movements in the capital.

With respect to contacts with the people to settle their complaints and denunciations, there must also be some further improvement in order to achieve better results. In meetings with the people, the city people's committee office should appoint those cadres who understand the questions raised by citizens in their letters of denunciation to the delegation so as to cooperate with the National Assembly deputies in answering the people, solving their questions or noting down their pleas in order to submit specific reports to the city people's committee.

The delegation should classify the letters of denunciation so as to forward them to the agencies with authority to handle them and should appoint delegates to follow up the cases and supervise the action taken by those agencies to answer the people and settle the cases.

The Hanoi delegation unanimously agreed to receive the people every Thursday morning at the city's VFF headquarters. Comrades Nguyen Van Linh and Nguyen Thanh Binh are ready to attend the meetings with the people as scheduled. At the meeting the Hanoi delegation also studied the draft bill on land and reports on the implementation of laws on the organization of the people's organ of control and the people's court in order to prepare for the upcoming Eighth National Assembly meeting.

Thai Binh Deputies Meet

BK141410 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 14 Jun 87

[Text] According to Comrade (Duong Hai Ngoc), a reporter of the Thai Binh Provincial Radio Station, yesterday, 13 June, the National Assembly deputies of Thai Binh Province visited three [number as heard] localities -- Thai Binh City and Thai Thuy District -- and some local hospitals and schools to meet with voters and hear their suggestions to the National Assembly and the state concerning various state systems and policies on teachers, physicians, physician's assistants, and hospitals; on medical treatment and examination; and on providing employment for students after their graduation. The deputies also heard suggestions made by members of agricultural, small industrial, and handicraft cooperatives on contractual work policy and the prices applied in the purchase of goods produced by handicraftsmen.

On this occasion, the delegation of National Assembly deputies of Thai Binh also met with various provincial administrative and judiciary organs and heard their proposals concerning some current bottlenecks in the land policy, agricultural tax, the people's complaints and denunciations, and so forth.

Nguyen Van Linh Meeting

BK150224 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 14 Jun 87

[Text] On the afternoon of 14 June, Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh, together with the three Eighth National Assembly deputies of electoral unit No 1 of Hanoi Municipality, cordially met with large numbers of voters of Ba Dinh and Hoan Kiem Precincts.

The cordial meeting was organized by the precincts' VFF Committees to enable the deputies to listen to voters' views and prepare for the coming first session of the Eighth National Assembly. The voters' delegates warmly welcomed Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh and the other deputies. The deputies also raised the problems and difficulties in industrial and handicraft and artisan industry production which will be considered by the National Assembly in studying and formulating policies and specific measures to remove these difficulties, accelerate production, and ensure good livelihood for workers, civil servants, and other laboring people.

The voters' delegates further told the deputies about the negative phenomena in society, especially in the domains of distribution and circulation, trade and industrial taxation, public health and education, employment, and promotion of cadres. The voters expressed their conviction that the first session of the Eighth National Assembly would elect good and talented people to the highest agencies of power of our state who are capable of leading the people to overcome ordeals and difficulties to victoriously fulfill the resolutions of the sixth national party congress and the second plenum of the party Central Committee.

Talking with voters, Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh praised the voters for having contributed their views to formulating and perfecting the various policies and systems of the party and state which will be considered by the National Assembly in establishing laws, guidelines, and policies. He stressed: The problem now is that everyone and each echelon must match his words with his deeds. Voters have the right not only to speak but also to do. Matching words with deeds must become a beautiful pattern of life for each of us. All party committee echelons and the administration at all levels, especially at the grass-roots level, must intensify control and inspection along with their educational, guiding, and organizational tasks and implementation task in order to warrant the promotion of the laboring people's collective mastery and the strict discipline of laws and policies.

Concluding the meeting, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh mentioned some of the current urgent issues, including the problems of grain, budget, and prices and expected that all the party members, people, and troops in the renovation spirit of the sixth party congress will unite around the National Assembly, create new strength, resolve immediate problems, and help victoriously achieve the three major economic programs set by the party.

Also during the days of 13 and 14 June, meetings were organized in eight other electoral units in Hanoi for deputies to contact voters. Comrade Nguyen Thanh Binh, the Hanoi party committee secretary, attended the meetings.

Meeting With Intellectuals

BK101103 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 9 Jun 87

[Text] A meeting between local deputies to the Eighth National Assembly and intellectuals was held recently at the conference hall of the Union of Scientific and Technical Workers Associations in Ho Chi Minh City. Professor Ly Chanh Trung, speaking on behalf of the deputies who will attend the forthcoming session of the Eighth National Assembly, pointed out what had and had not been done by the previous national assemblies. He stressed in particular the growing democratic nature of the current National Assembly.

Many participants contributed sincere and candid opinions and expressed their hope that the Eighth National Assembly, an assembly by the people and for the people, will bring into play its legislative role and pay more attention to the people's livelihood while supervising the activities of the state and government. The National Assembly should also devote itself to maintaining public order and security, opposing negativism which has become rampant, and building a healthier and better society.

PHAM VAN DONG ADDRESSES HANOI CONFERENCE 12 JUNE

BK130547 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 12 Jun 87

[Text] On 12 June the People's Committee and Federation of Trade Unions of Hanoi Municipality held a conference to review the implementation in the past year of the directive of Pham Van Dong, chairman of the Council of Ministers, on building the capital, and to work out measures to continuously step up the emulation drive in the movement of Hanoi workers, civil servants, and people in making positive contributions to fulfilling the socioeconomic tasks in conformity with the spirit of the resolutions of the 6th national party congress and the 10th Congress of the Hanoi Municipal Party Organization.

Pham Van Dong, chairman of the Council of Ministers, attended the conference.

After 1 year of implementing the directive of the chairman of the Council of Ministers, Hanoi has launched four emulation movements among its workers, civil servants, and laboring people. Despite the many difficulties it encountered in the movement for productive labor and economization, Hanoi managed to increase its individual production by 11.3 percent and its small industry and handicraft production by 17.5 percent. The local communications and transportation sector overcame numerous difficulties and made an effort to ensure shipment of important goods in the service of production and the people's life. The construction sector achieved a gross output value of 940 million dong, overfulfilling the plan by 4 percent, completing 33,334 square meters of housing quarters and more than 9,000 square meters of service quarters. The trade and grain sectors made many efforts to purchase, collect, and control commodity sources, especially agricultural products, and to distribute them to workers, civil servants, and the Armed Forces. Hanoi also found employment for 29,000 people.

In a difficult situation compounded by imbalances in many fields, Hanoi adopted policies and measures to promote the struggle for the transformation of market management and to care for the people's livelihood. The mass movement for public order and sanitation and for a clean and beautiful Hanoi was closely guided and conducted with coordination among different echelons and sectors and achieved practical results. The mass movement to safeguard political security and public order and safety developed positively. The system of coordinating the action of the four forces enabled Hanoi to struggle against and check many negative phenomena in society.

However, Hanoi still has some shortcomings in implementing the directive of the chairman of the Council of Ministers. Industrial and handicraft production is increasing slowly while the output of export articles remains unchanged. Economic efficiency is low; the results of agricultural production are not commensurate with the great potential of rural Hanoi; exports and imports fail to meet the planned targets; the state-run service remains undeveloped; and the market situation and public order are still effected by complex developments. Cadres, workers, civil servants, and the Armed Forces face numerous difficulties in their daily life; many people of working age still lack employment. Many pressing problems concerning education, culture, and public health and closely linked to the task of building a new type of man remained unsolved. Negativism in society is still rampant. Some cadres, party members, and people do not have a high sense of participation in the four movements.

Speaking at the conference, Chairman Pham Van Dong welcomed the cadres and people of Hanoi for having resolutely maintained the movements to make Hanoi clean and beautiful, to preserve public order and security, to step up production, to ensure goods distribution and circulation, and to serve the local people's life. However, the results obtained so far have not been encouraging and worthy of the Thang Long [ancient name of Hanoi] capital of the 1000-year civilization.

NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON DEVELOPING LOCAL INDUSTRY

BK101419 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 1 Jun 87

[NHAN DAN 2 Jun editorial: "Motivate Local Industry To Participate in the Consumer Goods Production Program"]

[Text] Despite numerous difficulties since early this year, the local consumer goods production industry has developed consistently.

During the first quarter, the entire sector achieved a production output value increase of 7.8 percent compared with the corresponding period last year. Of this, the food processing sector scored a 8.9 percent increase; tailoring, 10 percent; leather, 23 percent; earthenware and porcelain, 24.8 percent; and forestry processing, 5.2 percent.

Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi Municipality have maintained their leading role in the production of consumer goods with a fine rate of increase. Quang Nam-Danang, Quang Ninh, Thai Binh, Hai Hung, Nghe Tinh, Thanh Hoa, and Binh Tri Thien provinces achieved an increase of 7.3-38 percent compared with the corresponding period last year.

These achievements symbolize the initial progress of localities in implementing the Sixth CPV Congress resolution on the production of consumer goods. However, in comparison with the current demands for consumption and export, and the potentials in materials, labor, and capability, and said progress is still minimal. Many staple goods produced with local materials are in short supply. At various exhibitions, many beautiful and good quality goods have been put on display -- some are as good in quality as those imported from abroad -- yet consumer goods in circulation are scarce, of poor quality, limited variety and expensive. Some traditional occupations have gradually been phased out, while coordination between local industry and the central sectors has not been carried out firmly and harmoniously. Various ministries and sectors have not seriously carried out local industry management in accordance with the technical economic standards. As a result, various industrial production establishments in provinces and cities are still confused in terms of planning, defining economic and technical norms, and investment in equipment and machinery. Such practices as units producing the same kind of goods still prevail, thus leading to conflicts in buying materials and selling their products.

The small industrial and handicraft sector plays a very important role in producing a large volume of consumer goods. However, appropriate investment plans and policies for this sector have not been formulated yet. The orientation and policy for this sector were set forth in resolutions of the Sixth CPV Congress and the party Central Committee second plenum, but implementation is being carried out slowly, so many potentials have not been put into full use and production output is small.

To accelerate the production of consumer goods, we must create a new developing position for the entire light industrial sector by exploiting all potentials of our country and strengthening production cooperation with foreign countries, especially with the Soviet Union. Local industry must actively surge forward to overcome difficulties and effectively exploit local materials, capability, equipment, and labor, thereby helping to increase the production of consumer and export goods both in quality and quantity. It is imperative to rearrange production, improve the management mechanism, increase productivity, and enhance the quality of goods.

Our people are in need of more consumer goods. Each region, locality, and age-group needs diversified goods suiting their requirements and tastes. As a result, local consumer goods production establishments which have sufficient capabilities and concrete conditions must make utmost efforts to gradually and satisfactorily meet these legitimate demands.

The success of local industry depends chiefly on the ability to solve the material problem. In addition to the problems of material, production techniques, and the import of equipment, we must also formulate correct policies and measures to produce materials on-the-spot using local agricultural, forestry, marine, and mineral resources. We must formulate appropriate plans and policies for each material region -- including regions where materials are concentrated or scattered -- in order to create a long-term supply of materials to various production establishments, while striving to accelerate business joint ventures, save materials, and put into full use surplus materials. We must also effectively exploit the available material and technical bases by urging all provinces and grass-roots units to develop the spirit of dynamism and creativity, strengthen in-depth investment, gradually change equipment, and establish uniform production patterns.

HAI HUNG ORDERS ACTION AGAINST DISTRICT CADRES

BK130739 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 13 Jun 87

[Text] In the newscast of 1800 [1100 GMT] on 10 June and the Conversation With Listeners program on 12 June, the Voice of Vietnam carried reports denouncing (Dao Cong Tien) and his accomplices for savagely beating up youngster (Dao Cong Tuan) in Luong Bang Village, Kim Thi District, Hai Hung Province. On the afternoon of 12 June, the Standing Committee of the Hai Hung Provincial Party Committee sent our radio station its decision on dealing with this case. The document follows:

After hearing reports on this case, the Standing Committee of the Hai Hung Provincial Party Committee hereby decides that:

1. The Provincial Public Security Service must urgently organize the tracking down and arrest of (Dao Cong Tien).
2. The Provincial Public Security Service and People's Organ of Control must urgently complete the file on this case and consider it an important case. The Provincial Court should hold a session to try this case as soon as possible.
3. (Nguyen Hoa Canh), director, and (Pham Van Son), deputy director of the People's Organ of Control of Kim Thi District shall be temporary suspended from official duties for refusing to approve the arrest and detention of (Dao Cong Tien) and (Xuan). The Party Committee of Kim Thi District and the People's Organ of Control of Hai Hung Province should conduct an investigation into, and draw a clear conclusion of, this cover-up and apply party and state disciplinary measures against (Nguyen Hoa Canh) and (Pham Van Son) in a strict and just manner.
4. The Party Committee and People's Committee of Kim Thi District should give medical care to and look after (Dao Cong Tuan) to help him speedily recover.
5. The party organizations in Hai Hung Province should draw lessons of experience from this case, enhance their leadership, maintain public order, safeguard party and state discipline, educate all people to live and work according to the law, struggle against, check, and strictly and judiciously deal with, all deliberate acts of transgression of the law. These organs should urgently execute these decisions and report results to the Standing Committee of the Provincial Party Committee.

For the Standing Committee of the Party Committee of Hai Hung province, [Signed] Le Duc Binh, secretary.

AUSTRALIAHAWKE SPEAKS ON REGIONAL ISSUES, U.S. RELATIONS

BK141351 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0803 GMT 14 Jun 87

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] The Australian prime minister, Mr Bob Hawke is currently on the election trail leading the Labor Party in a bid to win an historic third successive term in government. The prime minister took time out from his tight schedule to talk to Radio Australia about regional issues. Judy Cooper asked Mr Hawke for his assessment of the impact the coup in Fiji has had on the South Pacific region and on Fiji itself.

[Begin recording] [Hawke] There is within Fiji an increasing understanding that what has happened has jeopardized the standing of Fiji in the region and the rest of the world, and from our point of view here, and I think I can speak for the other [South Pacific] Forum countries having met with them just recently, while we express deep regret and concern as to what has happened, we want to look to the future. I think we want to see a position in which there can be a proper recognition of the legitimate interests of various groupings within Fiji and a constitutional and legislative outcome which will maintain the basic fundamentals of democracy. And I think that reflects the view of the Australian Government and people, and also, as I understand it, the views of the other Forum countries. Now, as to whether the latest proposal by the governor general -- that is, to stage elections -- can satisfy those criteria, it is too early to say. We would want to get reactions from....

[Cooper, interrupting] In fact, the Australian Government's position, as I understand it, is to so far recognize Dr Bavadra as the legitimate leader of the country?

[Hawke] Yes, we have said that at this point the only duly elected government is that of Dr Bavadra. In factual terms, we recognize that there has been this development, that there is another authority there, but in terms of, if you like, de jure legitimacy, at this stage you can only point at Dr Bavadra. Dr Bavadra himself has indicated that he recognizes the facts of what has happened, and that he is prepared to cooperate in some new developments as long as the fundamental requirements of the democratic processes can be maintained.

[Cooper] Will you be meeting with Dr Bavadra should he come to Australia over the next week?

[Hawke] I would not be meeting with him during the election campaign. There is both a convention and the consideration of practicality about meeting foreign heads of state or prime ministers while election campaigns are on, and I also think that [Foreign Minister] Bill Hayden is actually in Singapore just for a few days or so then for the post-ASEAN meeting. But in those circumstances, the acting foreign minister, Gareth Evans, would probably meet him, I think.

[Cooper] What is your reaction to the notion of an uncontested election?

[Hawke] [Laughs] Well, I must say, to a prime minister in power, it has a certain prima facie attractiveness. But, that is a facetious comment you will appreciate. It is a pretty hard one conceptually to come to grips with.

[Cooper] Is the Forum Advisory Group, which you were so successful in setting up, now dead?

[Hawke] No, it is not dead; that proposal is on the table. What we said at the forum, Judy, was that it had to be a case of Fijian authorities saying that they would welcome it. So, we are prepared to go if there should be the request from Fiji. At this stage, the governor general seems to have indicated that they do not want it. That is not necessarily, I suppose, the last word.

[Cooper] Is Australia going to relax its conditions for Fijian Indians coming into the country should they want to?

[Hawke] No, we have not made any decisions nor are there any specific proposals before us in that regard, and it would be quite premature to address that issue at this time.

[Cooper] Radio Australia attracted quite strong criticisms from the Fijian governor general. He accused Radio Australia, really, of conducting a vendetta against Fiji during the time of the coup. That reflects some criticisms, for example, from a country like Indonesia of Radio Australia's broadcasting activities. How do you react to the notion that Australia is culturally imposing on countries in the region?

[Hawke] It's a very important question, Judy, and one which requires both on the part of governments in our region a right understanding and on the part of the government and people of Australia and Radio Australia itself, a very clear intellectually sane approach of integrity. In other words, what I mean by that is, well, speaking first of the countries in our region, they must understand that whatever form of government they have, whatever cultural backgrounds and traditions which lead to current practices there in terms of relations between government and the media, those backgrounds, those traditions, those customs, those practices which we accept in their country are not what happens in this country. As far as Australians are concerned, an integral feature of what we regard as a democratic society is the freedom of the media, and that operates within Australia. I mean, if these people were to come here and see just how dreadfully the media pans me at times. Well, I am joking about it, but that's it. I mean, we have a society in which the government can be panned by the media, and we regard the continuation of that fact as a sine qua non of our democratic society. I'm saying that if we extend that sort of concept beyond our shores, and report -- whether it be Radio Australia or our print media or our television channels -- if they go out and report, they are reporting according to our concepts of what is democratic, what is objective. That does not mean they will always be absolutely objective; I'm sure Radio Australia has made mistakes and I know there are television stations will have made mistakes, and so will our print media -- but they are not going out there to try and make value judgments and condemn; they are saying, well this is our reporting as we see it in terms of Australian concepts of what rightness and democracy is about. Now, it does seem to be very difficult for some of our friends, particularly Indonesia, I think, because of they have talked with me about it.

[Cooper] The managing director of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation [ABC], Mr David Hill, is currently on his way to Indonesia to meet with senior Indonesian officials. His intention, I believe, is to try and get an ABC journalist back into Jakarta. Do you think relations have progressed so far as to make that a possibility?

[Hawke] I hope so, but you can't be sure, because there has been a certain -- I'm not trying to be critical -- but there has been a certain erratic flow of decisions and events over the last couple of years where decisions have been taken, seemingly of an anti-Australian nature, for which it is impossible to discern, in our judgment, any real reason. But having said that, my own view is that within Indonesia, and

particularly with the president, there is essentially a good warm feeling towards Australia; and that's certainly true Australia towards Indonesia. So, the point I am making, Judy, is that in terms of the essential, the fundamental attitudes, I think it is sound and, again, intellectually sane judgments that must lead the leaders on both sides to say here are two countries, contiguous, one of vast population -- Indonesia -- and great resources, Australia not such vast population but enormous resources, high technology, a capacity on the part of each to be of assistance and relevance to the other. So I believe, viewing those facts, there are grounds for optimism.

[Cooper] On the point of warm feelings, the United States, former U.S. assistant secretary of defense, Mr Richard Perle, has accused Mr Hayden of being compulsively anti-American, and not very sympathetic to American policies. How do you see mutual perceptions of the American presence and influence in the region?

[Hawke] Now, well, just let me deal with Mr Perle first, quickly, and then we will come to the more general question. Didn't Richard Perle get his comeuppance very quickly from Mr Solarz first of all, and then yesterday from the U.S. ambassador in this country, Bill Lane? And I must say I thank my friend, Solarz, in the United States and my friend, Bill Lane, here who observed firstly, rightly, that the attack on Bill Hayden was totally without foundation, and secondly, Ambassador Lane observed that he thought that in the most very recent period the relations -- the bilateral relations -- between Australia and the United States were better than they had been in a whole 30 odd years since ANZUS was established. I thank him for that, and I think it is accurate.

Now, your broader question, Judy, was perceptions of the relations between the two countries and the presence of the United States in the region. I think the relations between Australia and the United States, as Bill Lane said, are probably better now than they have ever been. And that is because, firstly, there is a clear understanding on both sides that we are jointly members of a Western alliance committed to fundamental liberal democratic values and the defense of them. And an understanding on both sides that we will accept the obligations involved in that mutuality. Here in Australia, it means that we do host joint facilities which are not aggressive. They have no aggressive intent or function. Their essential function is peaceful in the sense that they provide an early warning facility, and they provide a verification facility with regard to existing treaties between the United States and the Soviets. That sort of system that we have of mutually assured destruction -- is not a highly moral basis for maintaining peace in the world. The only argument that has going for it is that it has worked; it has kept the world from war since 1945. But what we are working for and what we are working for with the United States and with the Soviet Union, with whom we have quite considerable communication, is to gradually move the world away from that morally inadequate basis of peace to a substantial one where, through negotiated agreements between the Soviet Union and the United States, there will be able to be a gradual but consistent reduction in the level of armaments, and particularly nuclear armaments. Now, in that relationship that we have with the United States, it is not one of identity of view on all issues, and that is part of the strength that this U.S. Administration has respected -- that on some issues we will not agree with them, we say where we don't agree with them. That gives us an added weight when we do express disagreement because they know that the fundamentals are sound between us.

[Cooper] I like to move on to other influences, particularly in the South Pacific region. The Council for Overseas Aid has criticized the government for not having heavy enough aid budgeting going into the South Pacific and leaving, therefore, windows of opportunity.

[Hawke, interrupting] We have... [changes thought] in the last budget it is true we had to cut our aid program, but not into the Pacific region. We have maintained it again in this May statement....

[Cooper, interrupting] Well, I think, they are arguing for a major boost. In fact....

[Hawke, interrupting] Yes, well it's very well. In regard to our Japanese friends, and I do not say this critically, but they have indicated their intention of increasing their aid. It has not materialized in substantial financial terms yet. I hope it will. But we, of course, are not in an economic position where -- we are certainly not in the economic position of Japan where we have got unlimited resources. But we have maintained the aid, and we have increased the areas of defense cooperation. As to that part of your question about leaving widows of opportunity, it is the case that Libya has shown an expanded interest and involvement in the region. We have acted swiftly and decisively in that area by moving the Libyan People's Bureau out of this country. We have talked now with all the countries of the region -- and I had a most rewarding meeting personally with the leaders in Apia, Western Samoa, just 2 weeks ago, -- and as a result of those discussion, I have agreed with them that we will provide on a regular basis, now, a sharing of our intelligence information and also where they have particular requests for intelligence appraisals or analyses that we will provide those. So that, as we look now in the future, we will be able to ensure that the countries in the region have a fairly detailed and early appreciation of possible adverse developments in the region, which should mean, in our judgment, that these windows of opportunity will not remain open.

[Cooper] Nevertheless, isn't it a great danger for Australia that economically more powerful countries, such as Japan, France, the Soviet Union, and the United States, could increasingly marginalise Australia's influence in the region because they can afford to?

[Hawke] No, I think that is a somewhat wrong perception. To the extent that these countries are providing legitimate, politically untied aid, we welcome it. I have told the Japanese prime minister and the Japanese foreign minister that we welcome and will facilitate, provide our experience to them, to see how their enlarged economic assistance can be most effectively used. Now, we don't take the view that we want to monopolize the region because we never have wanted to. And if Japan, the United States, and others are about providing legitimate aid which is for the economic and social development of these countries and not for their political subversion then we welcome it, because in the end the objective is the uplifting -- the economic and social uplifting -- of the lives of the people of the region. If others can help, good.

[Cooper] With the departure of Ambassador Marpaung from the Indonesian Embassy in Canberra and his replacement with Air Marshal Rusmin, how do you react to the apparent current downgrading of the Indonesian representation in Australia?

[Hawke] Well, I wouldn't want to make any comment about that. That wouldn't be helpful. I would simply say that the ambassador who is leaving has been, I think, an excellent representative of his country. I found him personally a man with whom it is possible to have frank and very useful and constructive discussions and in terms of the answer I gave earlier, Judy, I have the view that the fundamentals between Indonesia and Australia are such that we will have a good relationship because, if for no other reason, the old horse of self-interest is riding. It is in the self-interest of Indonesia, I believe, to have good relations, constructive relations with us as it is in our interest to have good relations with Indonesia, and in the end, as I have always said, the old nag of self-interest is always trying in every race. [end recording]

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